

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Paying the penalty
David Miller examines why the skill has gone from our soccer fields
Gulf scream
How the Americans are tightening their hold over the oil states
Artistic touch
Susy Menkes on winter fashions that capture the spirit of Dutch art
Race against time
Roger Scruton calls for a radical rethink on multi-ethnic education

Portfolio

Four people share last Saturday's £40,000 weekly prize in *The Times* Portfolio competition. They are: Mr John Ranshaw of Ealing, London; Mr James Boyle of Shirley, Southall; Mr Anthony Miller of Harrow, Middlesex; and Mr Geoffrey Duffell of Kidderminster, Worcestershire. The £2,000 daily prize was won by Mrs Jenny Fryer, of Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

Today's list, page 16; rules and how to play, back page Information Service.

Police raid nets £2m in heroin

Drugs squad officers in London yesterday made their largest seizure of heroin in the capital. Scotland Yard said that 6 kilos of pure heroin, worth about £2m in the street value had been recovered in a raid in the Paddington area. Two men were being questioned by police.

A company director and a woman, were charged with attempted drug smuggling yesterday after £4m of cannabis was seized on a yacht in Portugal. Trevor Arthur Rowe, aged 40, and Ingrid Campbell, aged 27, both of Penderford, Wolverhampton, are expected to appear in court today. Seven other people including five Britons, were arrested in Portugal last night.

Opec expected to cut output

Opec oil ministers meeting in Geneva plan to cut production heavily to defend prices, with Saudi Arabia bearing the brunt. The move would almost certainly restore depressed North Sea prices.

'Tricks' alleged

Allegations have been made to the Office of Telecommunications that British Telecom is using "dirty tricks" to prevent fair competition by private firms over supplying telecommunications equipment.

Chad talks fail

Talks in Brazzaville on ending the Chad civil war collapsed over the insistence by Mr Hissene Habre's regime that it be recognized by the participants as the legal Government.

Van Dyck find

Christie's have discovered an "unknown" Van Dyck portrait, the second found in a short period. It is of Anne Carr, Countess of Bedford.

Hateley winner

Mark Hateley, the England footballer, scored the winning goal as AC Milan beat Inter Milan 2-1 before a crowd of 80,000 in the San Siro stadium.

Marathon men

The New York marathon was won by Orlando Fizzolato an Italian, in 2 hr 14 min 53 sec, with David Murphy, of Britain, second. Grete Waitz, of Norway, won the women's race.

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Leading articles: Ireland; Reagan's popularity
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Kinnock condemns miners' contacts with Libyan unions

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday united in condemnation of contacts between the National Union of Mineworkers and Colonel Gaddafi, and the possibility that Libyan cash might be donated to the strikers' cause.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, said in a defiant interview on BBC radio (page 2) that there was a clear distinction to be made between Libyan trades unionists and the Libyan Government.

"As far as we are concerned", he said, "we would welcome financial assistance from anywhere".

But Mr Kinnock appeared to have no doubts that the contact had been made between the union and Colonel Gaddafi. Support for that view came from Libyan television last night, on British television last night, of the NUM representative exchanging warm embraces and handshakes with the Libyan leader, followed by friendly discussion.

Without even consulting the NUM leadership, Mr Kinnock issued a statement: "By any measure of political, civil, trade union or human rights, the Gaddafi regime is vile."

"Any offers from them would be an insult to everything the British labour movement stands for. If such offers are ever made, then of course they must and will be rejected."

Authoritative Whitehall sources said that the Prime Minister's initial reaction to *The Sunday Times* report, which gave a detailed account

of how meetings were held in Paris and Tripoli, had been one of sheer disbelief.

She had thought, at first, that it could not be true, that Mr Scargill and his senior colleagues could not possibly have been so foolish. As initial confirmation came in, her attitude had then changed to amazement, topped by contempt and anger.

Mrs Thatcher felt contempt and anger for any group that could forge links with a regime which had been responsible for the killing of Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher and for the arrest, without charge or trial, of innocent British nationals.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said that Mr Scargill had admitted that he had sought money from the Russians and the Hungarians as well as the Libyans. "I would just note: you must always judge a man by his friends."

He dismissed Mr Scargill's attempt to draw a line between the Gaddafi regime and Libyan trade unionists.

He pointed to *The Sunday Times* statement that the initial Paris contact between Mr Scargill and his union's chief executive, Mr Roger Windsor, had not been made by a trades unionist but by Mr Salem Ibrahim, described as "the trusted confidant of the Libyan leader who negotiates and arranges the financial payments to the disparate groups and causes which Gaddafi supports".

Mr Windsor arrived in Tripoli a week ago and the official Libyan news agency

reported that in a meeting with Colonel Gaddafi he had spoken of 80,000 oppressed strikers, 30,000 injured and 8,000 imprisoned in British jails.

The agency report said: "The envoy added that the left miners' families a target of hunger and hardship, reaching the extent of their inability to feed their children or bury their dead."

Mr Scargill said yesterday: "I've no idea what happened between Mr Windsor and the leader of Libya... I can't know of all the details of what was said from one person to another."

The extent of the embarrassment caused by the affair was measured by Mr Kinnock's statement and the knowledge that intense political capital will be made out of the matter.

The Labour leader's intervention was in marked contrast to that of a number of Labour backbenchers, who said that the Government traded and dealt with any number of repugnant regimes, and they did not object to the hard-pressed NUM receiving aid from any quarter.

Mr Kinnock's eagerness to leap into the Libyan controversy, without the courtesy of a prior call to Mr Scargill, will be seen at Westminster as part of an exercise to distance the Labour Party from Mr Scargill and what is becoming a personal strike.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said that the "Libya connection" had exposed the miners' strike as political.

Gaddafi's 'murdering thugs'

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Moderates angered by talks

Left-wing miners' leaders face a sharp protest from top-level moderates over the "Libya connection" at a critical meeting of the National Union of Mineworkers' executive on Thursday.

The move is being initiated by Mr Ted McKay, secretary of the North Wales pitmen, who last night described Colonel Gaddafi's regime as "murdering thugs", and expressed "absolute horror" at contacts with the Libyans admitted by Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president.

"I have been involved in the human rights movement for years, and I am sure that many more in my union feel the same way as I do. But I do hope they speak up. It is dreadful that this union should approach a terrorist country for help."

The TUC general secretary Mr Norman Willis, last night condemned the Libyan meeting. The Gaddafi affair has obscured, temporarily at least, renewed efforts to find a peace

formula in the mining strike, which today enters its thirty-fourth week. NUM national officials and the National Coal Board are to meet on Wednesday to discuss rival proposals for a draft settlement, but neither side is optimistic about a swift resolution.

Mr Peter Heathfield, union general secretary, yesterday defended the acceptance of an invitation to visit Tripoli for talks with Libyan trade unions, which included a meeting between Mr Roger Windsor, chief executive officer of the NUM and Colonel Gaddafi.

"The NUM's international relationships cross the trade union international divide. We have had excellent relationships with them all, and in the middle of a dispute we are obviously exploring or having discussions, with all friends, both left and right. We shall be looking for money internationally."

Mr Heathfield was also critical of comments made yesterday by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader. "It is a bit of a mess," he said, "but he doesn't consult people before making that kind of statement."

Privately, the NUM left and centre-right coalition that has dominated the miners' executive since the start of the pit strike believes that Mr McKay's protest will fall largely on deaf ears, although the disclosure of the "Libya connection" is likely to damage the miners' cause.

Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners, said yesterday: "I don't care what the NUM executive say, but I care what the miners say."

He did say yesterday that Britain would consider participating in an expanded United Nations military force in Lebanon in the event of an Israeli withdrawal, although Sir Geoffrey added a discreet rider to the effect that there was more than one way to participate in such an effort.

But last night a senior British official firmly denied that Sir Geoffrey had brought any message to Jerusalem from the Lebanese Government. "He is not acting in a breaking role or preparing a new initiative," the official said.

Hours before Sir Geoffrey began a private dinner here last night with Mr Vithak Shamin, the Foreign Minister, the Cabinet decided unanimously to press ahead with its plans to secure the necessary arrangements for a withdrawal. Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, has given an estimated time limit of between six and nine months.

According to a report by Jana, the official Libyan news agency, Mr Windsor met Colonel Gaddafi to whom he spoke of the miners' hardship.

NUM official refuses to comment on trip

By Michael Horsnell

The two men at the centre of the National Union of Mineworkers' secret links with Libya refused to comment on the affair yesterday.

Mr Roger Windsor, chief executive of the NUM, who met Colonel Gaddafi in Tripoli last Monday when he spoke about government and police oppression against the striking miners, stayed out of sight and indoors at his home in Sheffield.

Mr Mumtaz Abbasi, the Pakistani who arranged Mr Windsor's trip, claimed at his home in Doncaster that he knew nothing about the meeting.

Mr Windsor's visit to Libya was arranged after meeting with Libyan leaders in Paris attended by both him and Mr Arthur Scargill. Britain broke off diplomatic relations in April after the murder of Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher outside the Peoples Bureau in London.

The Paris meeting was on October 8 when NUM officials spent the day at the headquarters of the CGT, the French Communist union, apparently to organize food parcels from French sympathizers.

According to a report in *The Sunday Times*, Mr Scargill, who flew from Manchester under the name of Smith, met Mr Abbasi, European representative of Al-Zulfikar, a Libyan-backed terrorist group dedicated to the overthrow of General Zia's regime in Pakistan, and Salem Ibrahim, who is described by French intelligence as Colonel Gaddafi's "paymaster".

On October 19 Mr Abbasi, who owns a grocery shop in Doncaster, flew to Frankfurt on October 19 and waited there for Mr Windsor who joined him on the trip to Tripoli.

According to a report by Jana, the official Libyan news agency, Mr Windsor met Colonel Gaddafi to whom he spoke of the miners' hardship.

Continued on back page, col 1



Howe in surprise visit to Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Lebanon

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, flew into the Lebanese mountain town of Bikfaya on board an RAF helicopter yesterday morning for talks with President Gemayel and Mr Rashid Karwan, the Prime Minister. He carried no new initiatives with him and appeared intent only on defining the Lebanese Government's terms for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Officially, he was hoping to obtain a "feel" for the situation in which is now a partitioned country, although how such knowledge could be obtained in a two-hour visit to the old Gemayel ancestral house amid the olive groves and sleepy churches of Bikfaya was difficult to understand.

Sir Geoffrey, who travelled on to Israel via Cyprus for a two-day official visit immediately after leaving Lebanon, clearly hoped to be able to face the Israeli leaders with first hand knowledge. On Tuesday, his Israeli hosts are expected to take him to northern Galilee and press him with a decidedly different view of Lebanon from their northern border.

He did say yesterday that Britain would consider participating in an expanded United Nations military force in Lebanon in the event of an Israeli withdrawal, although Sir Geoffrey added a discreet rider to the effect that there was more than one way to participate in such an effort. Britain, he said, had called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon "and I will tell the Israelis just that".

● JERUSALEM: Added diplomatic significance has been given to the first visit to Israel by Sir Geoffrey Howe as a result of his unannounced stop for talks with Lebanese leaders (Christopher Walker writes).

But last night a senior British official firmly denied that Sir Geoffrey had brought any message to Jerusalem from the Lebanese Government. "He is not acting in a breaking role or preparing a new initiative," the official said.

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Photograph, page 6

Tebbit says BBC right to show film

As Mrs Margaret Thatcher spent one and a half hours yesterday visiting Mr and Mrs Norman Tebbit in hospital, Mr Tebbit said that the BBC was right to televise his rescue from the bombed Brighton hotel. Mrs Thatcher and her husband, Denis, took with them to Stoke Mandeville Hospital, in Buckinghamshire, flowers, chocolates and a bottle of "Prime Minister's Special Reserve" malt whisky. [Mr Tebbit, in a letter to *The Times* (page 13), says the BBC was justified because the bombing was an event of public and political importance.]

Ethiopian official snubs Britain as planes wait

The crews of two RAF Hercules aircraft on standby yesterday while talks continued in London to gain clearance from Ethiopia for an airlift of supplies to the famine-stricken country.

As British Airways and the RAF completed plans for a joint airlift, the Ethiopian Commissioner for Coordinating Famine Relief delivered a snub to the British Government.

Mr Dawit Wolde Giorgis claimed that the airlift would serve the interests of politicians for publicity more than it would help Ethiopia's starving people. Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *World at One* yesterday, unnecessary emphasis on various aspects of aid, when lorries, drilling machinery and spare parts were urgently required.

Continued on back page, col 4

Reagan sits comfortably on his lead

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan looks ever more unassailable as the race enters the home stretch. The Mondale-Ferraro team, gloomy but dogged, has narrowed its hopes to a few key areas.

Mr Walter Mondale will confront the President in his home state of California this week, backed by a \$3m (£2.4m) local television campaign.

To win the election, the Democrats must capture at least one of the large Sun Belt states. California, the biggest prize, seems to be slipping through their fingers, according to the latest poll. Everywhere they turn, the news seems to be bad. Despite the go-for-broke pace set by Mr Mondale, compared with Mr Reagan's calm confidence, the poll continues to point to one vital factor: voters are uneasy about Mr Mondale's ability to handle the economy of a foreign crisis.

Plodding through his unchanging fact-free speeches of optimism and hope, Mr Reagan told young people in Washington the campaigns close to home as much as possible. "I just have to say your generation really sparkles. I've seen enthusiasm and patriotism in your eyes that convince me that you get high on America."

Mr Mondale was encouraged yesterday when he received the endorsement of *The New York Times*. A leading article said Mr Reagan had done a good job in some ways. The country was better off. But he should not be re-elected because he had paid for the recovery and his popularity with the pain of millions of people thrown out of work and hundreds of billions of dollars the Government must borrow in the next four years.

Election system, page 5
Leading article, page 13

Poland alert for kidnap protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Polish authorities are bracing themselves for angry protests today after the announcement that a police captain, heading a group of frustrated officers, has confessed to killing Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the outspoken priest kidnapped 10 days ago.

The Warsaw provincial defence committee met on Saturday to discuss how to handle street protests and how to reduce the possibility of clashes between the population and police.

Large numbers of police moved into place across the Vistula River from St Stanislaw Kovka, the church of Father Popieluszko, lest congregations of well wishers began demonstrations.

Leaflets circulating in the church said the Warsaw steelworkers - whose workers were among the most faithful of Father Popieluszko's parishioners - was appealing to all the city's factories to stage strikes from today.

But Solidarity seems to be wary of organizing major protests. The union analysis is that hardline Marxists are trying to topple General Wojciech Jaruzelski by showing that he is incapable of keeping order.

After Mass at St Brigida's church in Gdansk yesterday, the congregation called for a march to a monument commemorating workers shot in 1970. But Mr Lech Walesa pressed them to disperse quietly. In an interview he said: "We should be careful not to be an instrument in their game. If they want to reshuffle chairs, let them do it without us."

General Jaruzelski's Government has been shaken by the kidnapping of the 37-old priest, who has gained a national following with his "Masses for the homeland" during which he highlighted the abuse of human and trade union rights and the failures of communism. Thousands of sympathizers, including leading figures in the outlawed Solidarity movement, attended another such mass last night, one of few to be held without the priest.

A sign of panic in the Government came on Saturday night when General Czeslaw Kiszczak, the Interior Minister, chose to broadcast to the nation to explain the circumstances of the kidnap. Such appeals for calm usually are made only in moments of intense crisis.

The minister said the three arrested kidnappers were police officers in his own ministry, and their leader, Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, had confessed to murdering the priest.

No body had yet been found, despite a thorough search of the area where the captain said the body had been left.

The captain's two accomplices say the priest was Continued on back page, col 2

Which of these languages would you like to speak?

Tick the one you want to speak in 3 months' time

<input type="checkbox"/> Afrikaans	<input type="checkbox"/> German	<input type="checkbox"/> Malay
<input type="checkbox"/> American	<input type="checkbox"/> Greek (intermediate)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Burmese)
<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/> Greek (modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese (modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew (modern)	<input type="checkbox"/> Polish
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese (Mandarin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hindi	<input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese
<input type="checkbox"/> Danish	<input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic	<input type="checkbox"/> Russian
<input type="checkbox"/> Dutch	<input type="checkbox"/> Indonesian	<input type="checkbox"/> Serbo-Croat
<input type="checkbox"/> English (intermediate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish (Castilian)
<input type="checkbox"/> English (advanced)	<input type="checkbox"/> Italian	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish (Latin American)
<input type="checkbox"/> Finnish	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Swedish
<input type="checkbox"/> French		<input type="checkbox"/> Welsh
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British Telecom accused of dirty tricks against private firms

By Nicholas Timmins

Allegations that British Telecom is using "dirty tricks" to prevent fair competition by private companies in the supply of telecommunications equipment have been put to the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel), the new watchdog for the industry.

A dossier of 46 cases drawn up by the Telecommunications Manufacturers Association includes allegations that BT has abused privileged commercial information; created difficulties for companies which buy from private suppliers in connecting them and in 15 cases sold equipment at below cost to beat competitors.

Details of some of the allegations will be revealed in tonight's *Panorama* on BBC 1, on which Professor Bryan Carsberg, director-general of OfTel, says they provide "a lot of grounds for concern".

Ensuring BT competes fairly under new guidelines being drawn up for when it is privatized next month for £3.5bn, was vital, he said.

The Government maintains that privatization will increase competition, but on *Panorama* companies allege that BT has used its size and power to prevent fair competition.

Mr George Smith, marketing director of Mitel, which makes switchboard equipment, says one of its distributors sold a system which it also makes for British Telecom to a hospital. Although BT bid for and lost the order, it offered the hospital the identical system for £30,000 less.

Afterwards it asked Mitel how much the system would cost.

Mr John Simmonds, company secretary of the Celcon building supplies group, said his

company performed a Plessey system.

BT, he said, told the company that the Plessey system would not do the job when clearly it would and that the company's internal wiring could only be used if BT maintained it.

"At the same time they made it very clear they didn't really want to maintain the Plessey equipment", saying the company should carry spares and spend £10,000 on test equipment. "In other words, they were trying to obstruct our negotiations with Plessey".

Mr Warren-Taylor, managing director of Air Call, said that in 1979 his company had 50 per cent of the paging market. Now BT has 80 per cent, he said, because it spent four years approving new technology Air Call wanted to use while marketing its own.

Ronan Point review sought

By Charles Kaevit, Architecture Correspondent

The only independent expert to give evidence at the Ronan Point public inquiry in 1968 has called for a national survey of all post-war industrialized house-building systems and the reopening of the inquiry with much wider terms of reference.

Mr George Fairweather, an architect, now aged 78, told the inquiry that Ronan Point was a "blind risk", its method of construction was "unsafe and unsound" and that it was a hazard to public safety.

He told *The Times* that the recent decision by Newham Council, in east London, to evacuate eight blocks of flats of similar construction to Ronan Point had vindicated his evidence.

Mr Fairweather was the

principal expert witness in a celebrated House of Lords case in 1965, when East Ham Council and Newham successfully sued Bernard Sunley (Builders) over liability for bad workmanship.

Mr Fairweather has always been critical of the scope of the 1968 inquiry, chaired by Mr Hugh (now Lord Justice) Griffiths, QC, which he said should have concerned itself with public safety, not just the immediate circumstances of the disaster.

Ronan Point partially collapsed, killing five people, after a gas explosion on the eighteenth floor of the 22-storey tower block. More than £100m was subsequently spent on strengthening 567 blocks of

similar construction, containing 38,700 flats, throughout Britain.

Mr Fairweather wants the Institution of Structural Engineers to draw up a model specification of design against which all system-built blocks would be checked. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities estimated recently that up to one million flats were built by this method since the Second World War.

Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South, whose constituency includes Ronan Point, said yesterday: "An unsatisfactory outcome of the 1968 inquiry is the failure of government to investigate the safety of tower blocks using panel systems."

Shopkeeper denies Gaddafi link

Mr Nuzair Abbasi has denied organizing a link between the miners' union and Colonel Gaddafi's regime in Libya.

Mr Abbasi, a Doncaster shopkeeper in exile from Pakistan, has been named in *The Sunday Times* as being crucial to the NUM's Libyan link, but he yesterday denied knowledge of the affair or whether cash had been ordered for the miners' cause by the Libyans.

But he did say he knew that Mr Roger Windsor, the NUM's chief executive, had been holding secret talks with the Libyan government. "I was told over the phone by a friend that Mr Windsor or a man resembling him had been pictured in the Libyan newspapers and he also appeared on television with Colonel Gaddafi holding talks."



Mr Abbasi: No knowledge of cash.

Pit leaders 'bring back soup kitchen poverty'

The Prime Minister has accused Mr Arthur Scargill and other National Union of Mineworkers' leaders of bringing soup kitchen poverty back to Britain.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher says in an interview in today's *Birmingham Post* that the NUM leadership was isolated and it had reduced its own membership to circumstances which would never have been expected.

Mrs Thatcher says: "They have brought back to a very poor industry, proof of its high earnings."

Unemployment pits, page 17

Herr Rommel, left, and Lord Montgomery, right, with the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Cyril Lowe.

Rommel meets Montgomery

The son of Field Marshal Rommel, Germany's most respected war-time general, yesterday met Field Marshal Montgomery's son.

Herr Manfred Rommel, a West German politician and Lord Montgomery of Alamein were in Blackpool for the annual El Alamein reunion.

Before the two men took the salute at the march past of the eighth Army veterans, Herr Rommel spoke of the

shame of the Third Reich: "The last war was begun on the German side and the Third Reich is shameful for Germans. I am moved that I have been accepted with such kindness and warmth."

Lord Montgomery, who inherited his father's title, said: "It is a tragedy my father and Rommel never met. Now history has rectified that and their sons have met."

Scargill and the Libyan factor

Angry clash over aid claim

Mr Arthur Scargill said yesterday that he would welcome financial assistance from Libyan trade unionists. But in an angry clash with a BBC interviewer he said that there was no evidence to suggest that such aid would be paid for by the Libyan Government.

Mr Scargill's interview, on the BBC radio *World this Week* programme, began with an attack on Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Leader, who had earlier issued a statement saying that any offers of assistance from the Gaddafi regime would have to be rejected.

The NUM president said: "Mr Kinnock would have been better advised contacting me first to find out the facts. It is not true that we made any approach to Libya. In fact, quite the opposite. What happened was that when we visited Paris to arrange for a food convoy from the French working class to the British miners who are on strike, we met several delegations who were there, including one from Hungary, one from Libya and one from the Soviet Union."

"An invitation was received for the general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers to go to Prague to speak to an international miners' conference and one to go to Libya to our chief executive officer. At their expense - there was no expense to the NUM - and simply to state the case of the miners' union to trade unionists in Libya."

Mr Gordon Clough, the interviewer, asked: "And what response did you get from the Libyan trade unionists?"

Scargill: "We have no response whatsoever so far. We haven't had one single penny. I stress to you that we did not make an approach to the Libyan Government, and nor did we go over for that purpose."

"All of the national officials of the

NUM know of the visit; there was nothing secretive about it whatsoever. Indeed, when we were asked if visits anywhere could go over and explain the position of the British miners to the trade unionists in Libya, we said: 'Yes, of course, we've already contacted trade unionists all over the world and we have received invitations and responded positively to those in at least 50 countries'."

Mr Clough then pointed out that Mr Windsor had also talked with Colonel Gaddafi, and asked: "What happened in the conversation between Mr Windsor and Colonel Gaddafi, which earlier on this morning you were saying you weren't even sure had happened?"

Scargill: "Well, I've no idea what happened between Mr Windsor and the leader of Libya. All I can say is that if a representative of the National Union of Mineworkers visits any country anywhere in the world it is not unusual for the leader of that country to request, for example, an interview or a meeting."

Clough: "Mr Scargill, as president of the NUM, you are telling me that you don't know what passed between your chief executive and the Libyan head of state?"

Scargill: "What I am telling you is that I can't know all the details of what was said from one person to another. All I know is that Mr Windsor certainly did not ask to meet the leader of Libya and simply said the same things to him so far as I am aware, as he said to the trade unionists in Libya; and that was the current situation of the mining dispute in Britain."

"He did not discuss anything other than that, and that was the reason he went there."

Clough: "Would you be happy, Mr Scargill, as a socialist, as a trade unionist, to accept money from Libya - Libyan trade

unions are not entirely separated from the Government - from the state which was responsible for the murder of policeman Fletcher and for the murder of Libyan dissidents abroad? Are you entirely happy that your public image has not been damaged by this contact with the Libyan regime?"

Scargill: "Let me make one thing absolutely clear. Let's distinguish between trade unionists in one country and government policy. You wouldn't, for example, associate Arthur Scargill's views with Margaret Thatcher's. As far as we are concerned we would welcome assistance from trade unionists anywhere, while miners, their families and their children are suffering terrible hardship as a result of this Government's policy in trying to close our pits and destroy our communities."

Clough: "And you genuinely think that any cheque that you get from the Libyan trade unionists is not financed by the Libyan Government?"

Scargill: "And what gives you the right to say anything other than that?"

Scargill: "Why? You're not only interviewing me, you're making assertions that you can't back up by any facts whatsoever and I think that's really deplorable on the part of a BBC interviewer."

Clough: "I could refer you, Mr Scargill, to the human rights handbook which says that trade unions in Libya are under constant pressure from the Government to merge the national socialism with the Islamic state."

Scargill: "Well, what you're saying is, of course, that trade unions are under pressure. That obviously suggests that what I am saying to you is correct and that what you have been suggesting to me is not."

Clough: "Mr Scargill, thank you very much indeed."

Tree cloning may boost supplies of quinine

A Bristol research team has succeeded in cloning "super trees" which could help enhance the world supply of the anti-malarial drug quinine.

The drug is found naturally only in the bark of the cinchona tree, a native of the Andes. But the trees, which can take up to 16 years to mature, vary greatly in quality and are susceptible to disease.

After seven years' research work at Bristol Polytechnic, however, researchers have been able to clone what they term "superior" trees from healthy mother specimens. They have developed a process of micro-propagation of clonal material.

Dr Chris Hunter, principle lecturer in plant physiology, said: "We have developed a process whereby we can take trees of known quality from one plantation and produce 'babies' from them to be returned to the plantations."

Quarry workers to keep jobs

The 25 workers at Honister slate quarry in the Lake District who had been told they would be laid off at the weekend, have now learnt that they are to go on a three-day week instead.

The Buttermere and Westmorland Green Slate Co. said, yesterday: "The worst fears of the company have not been realized, and it has been possible to keep on the 25 workers at Honister slate quarry."

Mr Bernard Moore, the managing director, expects the three-day week to be temporary and emphasized that there were adequate slate stocks to meet all orders.

Microlight crash fear

The former wife of Sir Hugh Fraser is believed to have died in a Microlight crash in the North of Scotland. Miss Aileen Ross, aged 36, from Dymen, Strathgairn, former show-jumping champion, was a passenger on an aircraft which disappeared on Saturday afternoon.

The pilot was a Post Office engineer, Mr Alastair Milne, aged 27, of Frederick Street, Dundee. The light blue machine had two hours of fuel when it took off from Kippen.

Trawlers clash off Ireland

A French naval vessel was yesterday reported to be on patrol off the south coast of Ireland after clashes between two French and two British-registered Spanish trawlers.

They tried to ram each other and catch each other's nets, just a week after the Irish Navy was involved in a five hour chase across the Irish sea after a Spanish trawler.

No hoax charge

Mr Michel Baton-Laborde, the French security officer at the centre of the bomb hoax during President Mitterrand's state visit to Britain last week, will not be charged, Scotland Yard said yesterday.

Times calendar

A full colour calendar featuring photographs of Britain is available from newsmagazines or can be sent directly with a good wishes message. Send for a leaflet to Times Books Ltd, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia 25c, Belgium 25c, Canada 25c, Denmark 25c, France 25c, Germany 25c, Greece 25c, Hong Kong 25c, India 25c, Ireland 25c, Italy 25c, Japan 25c, Korea 25c, Malaysia 25c, Mexico 25c, New Zealand 25c, Norway 25c, Pakistan 25c, Portugal 25c, Singapore 25c, Spain 25c, Sweden 25c, Switzerland 25c, Taiwan 25c, Thailand 25c, Turkey 25c, USA 25c, USSR 25c, Venezuela 25c.

Inquiry into islands' cash crisis

By Ronald Faux

The financial plight of the Western Isles Council, which claims it can no longer afford to provide obligatory public services, is to be investigated.

The financing working group of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) is to decide whether to press the Secretary of State for Scotland to give the council more funds, because of it has some of the highest public service costs in Scotland and the lowest rating base.

The Convenor, Mr Alexander Matheson, said the council inherited a legacy of deprivation when it was formed in 1975.

The council controls a string of remote islands stretching about the distance from Cardiff to London.

Scotland is about to lose up to £100m in development grant aid, the MP for Dumfriesshire East, Mr Gordon Brown, said yesterday.

In the commons he is to accuse the Government of having torn up the regional aid map for Scotland.

Ministers fight to protect budgets

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Treasury demands for cuts worth £2,500m in next year's Whitehall spending bids are being blocked by some Cabinet ministers, who are refusing to accept the pleas and persuasion of Lord Whitelaw, who has been asked to mediate.

Lord Whitelaw, leader of the Lords and chairman of the so-called "Star Chamber", a Cabinet committee asked to settle interdepartmental spending disputes, is known to be pessimistic that a solution can be found.

Colleagues on the committee have gone even further, suggesting that this year's round of negotiations has been particularly bruising and that the "squalls" have been abnormally loud this year, if only because the annual cutting exercise moves closer to the home each year.

The disputes that remain are thought to centre on Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence; Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services; and Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy.

It is expected that Mrs

Margaret Thatcher will be forced to intervene, with the backing of the full Cabinet, to resolve the conflict.

The Treasury is pressing for cuts to meet its 1985-86 spending target of £131,000m, but Mr Heseltine is thought to have put in a spending bid of at least £500m more than planned.

Mr Fowler is struggling with a budget exploded by the demands of unemployment benefits and an insatiable National Health Service. One report has suggested that he is £1,000m over target.

He is thought to have beaten off Treasury demands for cuts in housing benefit and for a switch away from annual to two-yearly uprating of benefits, but the annual round of increases in prescriptions and other health service charges could be heavier than usual.

Mr Heseltine, already under pressure over the cost of Trident, which increases with every slump in the sterling-dollar exchange rate, is now facing questions on more immediate defence commitments on conventional force levels.

It is expected that Mrs

Thatcher says in an interview in today's *Birmingham Post* that the NUM leadership was isolated and it had reduced its own membership to circumstances which would never have been expected.

Mrs Thatcher says: "They have brought back to a very poor industry, proof of its high earnings."

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Second 'unknown' Van Dyck found

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's have discovered a beautiful portrait by Van Dyck whose existence was wholly unknown to scholars. The painting (left) depicts Ann Carr, Countess of Bedford (1617-1684) at the age of 22, holding a white rose in her hand and with the rather unlikely combination of a rock and a red curtain behind her.

Mr Simon Dickinson, a Christie's director, came upon her while he was doing a routine valuation in an English private house. The picture had belonged to the family for some 60 years but had been considered a copy after Van Dyck. Mr Dickinson recognized its quality immediately and left with careful photographs in order to research its history.



It is argued that the Anglo-Swiss project would have a better chance of winning export orders than would Firecracker or the Tucano.

It is likely that ultimately the contract will have to be decided by the Cabinet, probably influenced by factors other than the intrinsic merits of the aircraft.

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Remand system crumbling under pressure, report says

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The remand system is crumbling under pressure and 45,000 people are remanded in custody each year, the Prison Reform Trust says in a report today, which calls for urgent change.

The trust says that prisons and police cells are filled to bursting point. Yet nearly half of all remand prisoners are acquitted or given a non-custodial sentence.

The report, by Marlene Winfield, says there should be statutory compensation for wrongful imprisonment before trial.

Not all people are innocent victims of the law's mistakes, however. But many will suffer and be damaged.

The report calls for the creation of a pretrial agency on the American model to provide courts with verified information about defendants to eliminate guesswork from bail decisions, and a new independent courts' inspectorate to monitor efficiency and promote best practice.

It cites the case of a man it gives the pseudonym of Roberto Marchetti, who is married with a young son, and was in custody for more than 14 months before acquittal. During that time he lost the house he was about to buy, his business came close to bankruptcy and members of his family were evicted from their flat.

When they were interviewed for the report, they were living in temporary accommodation hoping to be rehoused by the council.

Mr Marchetti is one of five former remand prisoners whose stories are told in the report. Their lives have all been damaged by pretrial imprisonment and none was subsequently jailed. Their experiences "illustrate the heavy cost of inconsistency and delay", the report says.

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, has announced that proposals are to be introduced for statutory time limits on the period from arrest to the beginning of a trial in criminal proceedings.

Lacking conviction, by Marlene Winfield. (Prison Reform Trust, Nuffield Lodge, Regents Park, London NW1 4RS. £3.75 + 50p p&p).

Test case on recall of prisoners

A test case over the right of the Parole Board to recall prisoners on licence without giving them reasons or an oral hearing to put their side of the case opens in the Court of Appeal today (Frances Gibb, Our Legal Affairs Correspondent, writes).

The appeal has been brought by Mr Edward Gurnell, aged 53, over his recall to prison two years after he was released on licence. He had served 17 years of life sentences for four offences of rape and two of attempted rape.

The case raises the question of whether the board should be governed by the rules of natural justice as would a judicial appeal body.

Mr Gurnell, who is mentally handicapped, was recalled to prison on the Home Secretary's direction, despite complying with conditions of his licence, because of "feelings of suspicion and unease" arising from two incidents.

When Mr Gurnell's case came before the High Court it was said that the licence was authorised because of the similarity between the incidents and the manner in which he had committed the original offences.

He was later told this by an assistant governor.

But Mr Gurnell contends that under the rules of natural justice he should have been given reasons in writing and that he had a right to see the reports before the Parole Board when it made its decision so he could answer them.

But the High Court rejected his case. Natural justice rules did not apply to the board, it said, as it was performing an administrative function and not a judicial one.

Co-op profit fall leads to reform call

By Derek Harris

The Cooperative Wholesale Society was under further pressure to take urgent action to reverse its fortunes after hearing of declining sales and falling profits during its half yearly meeting held at the weekend.

The society's half-year pre-tax profits were down 15.4 per cent at £6.6m on a turnover of £95.8m. Last year the society made £16.6m profit on a turnover of £22.100m which was 8 per cent up on the previous year.

Mr Peter Paxton, the society's chairman, gave the meeting a warning about unprofitable retail societies. He said: "We cannot afford to permit large Co-ops to continue to make losses and thereby weaken the fabric of the co-operative movement as a whole."

He added that although the CWS must try to encourage strong regional retail groupings, the CWS had no plans to involve itself in further mergers with regional societies or with the Cooperative Retail Society (CRS), the movement's biggest retailer.

The society discussed the possibility of reducing the number of retail societies from the present 100 to about 25.

Attack by animal rights body

The director of an animal research laboratory was attacked with an iron bar at his home yesterday morning in one of four simultaneous raids in Hampshire by members of The Animal Liberation Front. Ten people were arrested.

The other targets, another laboratory with a similar name and a kennels, have no connexion with research involving animals. Thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused.

About 30 front members carried out simultaneous raids on two research laboratories in Wickham, smashing down doors and windows with sledgehammers. Others broke into the home near by of Mr David Walker, research director of Wickham Laboratories. He was not seriously hurt.

Other members broke into kennels about a mile away and attacked three people. They were treated at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham.

Mr Paddy Edwards, laboratory manager at Wickham, said that the gang, men and women, wore balaclava helmets. They attacked the laboratories, which carry out toxicity tests. It is not thought any animals were released.



Mr George Unwin, landlord of the Bell Inn, Curry Mallet's single public house

'Dying' village gets say in its future

Britain's most famous absentee landlord, the Duke of Cornwall, headed by the Prince of Wales, has commissioned a team of researchers to study the sprawling, sparsely-populated Somerset village of Curry Mallet, seven miles east of Taunton, to pinpoint the problems facing a remote rural community.

The duchy had proposed a scheme for new housing, and was surprised when the villagers petitioned the Prince to withhold the application and protect the village, whose population is 286, from further development.

So the duchy commissioned the Dartington Institute, in Totnes, Devon, a non-profit-making research body specializing in rural development, land use and community initiatives, to do a survey, and has accepted its findings.

After careful questioning the re-

searchers established that villagers did want new housing in Curry Mallet after all, including that intended in the original duchy proposal. They also wanted special housing for the old and cheaper homes for local people.

They were worried about the poor level of public services and about shopping and transport. They also called for improved employment opportunities for women and young people and complained about the lack of recreation and sports facilities.

Some were worried about the loss of community spirit and the fact that the village was almost "dying" through the loss of young people.

The researchers decided that most of the villagers looked to new development as a means of encouraging a more balanced population. They found that many were unclear as to the role of the duchy, some seeing its influence as minimal, others as dominant and beyond challenge.

There has been little development since the duchy obtained the parish more than 500 years ago. It still owns most of the 1,500 acres of land, farmhouses and buildings and tied cottages.

In the years between the two world wars labour-intensive farms and associ-

ated crafts meant local jobs for most of the then 314 inhabitants.

But subsequently the village, which has one public house, one shop and two buses a week, has slipped into decline. There is only a handful of jobs left on the land and a disproportionately high number of elderly and retired people.

The report recommends that the duchy goes ahead with its original plans for housing and also considers releasing other land for cheap homes and accommodation for the elderly. It also suggests that the duchy makes houses available through mortgage and co-ownership schemes for the less well-off.

Mother wins work hours to suit baby

Rugby Borough Council has been ordered to allow a town hall clerk to work from today at times enabling her to care for her baby.

The Warwickshire council's refusal to allow a change in the work hours of Mrs Susan Wright, aged 35, of Dew Close, Dunchurch, Rugby, was set aside by an industrial tribunal in Birmingham ruled on Friday. It ordered the council to change its policy so that from today she can start at a time that suits her and the care of her baby, aged 18 months.

The tribunal heard that before her baby's birth Mrs Wright worked from 8.45am to 5.15pm with a lunch break of an hour. But she had been temporarily allowed to work for three months starting at 8.30am and finishing at 4.30pm with half an hour for lunch, giving her the same number of hours worked.

The council's chief executive, Mr John Lowton, recommended that she be allowed to continue with that schedule because it did not affect her department's work. But the council's staffing sub-committee refused to support the move because it set a precedent and went against the council's policy of refusing flexitime working to its 300 clerical staff.

The tribunal chairman, Mr John Haslam, said that the council's words pointed to a council serving its own convenience and not to any real need or requirement. Other employers might justify such a decision by showing there was an effect on business or staff. But in this case there was none.

The decision was discriminatory because a far greater proportion of women than men could be affected by it.

The tribunal's order was made by agreement between the parties without prejudice to the right of appeal.

Salty food 'endangers children'

By Thompson Prentice Science Correspondent

Millions of children will become potential victims of heart disease, because of dangerous salt levels in their diet of snacks and fast foods, a blood pressure specialist said.

Parents believe that heart disease and blood pressure are middle-age conditions but the seeds are sown in childhood, Dr Graham MacGregor, director of the blood pressure unit at Charing Cross Hospital, London, said.

About 20 per cent of the population is estimated to suffer high from blood pressure. Dr MacGregor's unit first showed that moderate reduction of salt intake lowered the blood pressure of many patients.

But, he said: "Many young children exist almost entirely on processed snacks and other foods very high in sodium and fat, for example potato chips, biscuits and burgers."

"If we got nutritionists to devise the worst possible diet for the development of cardiovascular disease that is what we are giving our children today. The seeds of heart disease and high blood pressure start in early childhood."

The Salt Free Diet Book (Martin Dinitz, £3.50).

Biological link for food firms

● Latest developments in molecular biology and chemical engineering are to be used in the food and drinks industry (Our Science Editor writes). Processing work is to be done by a organization formed as joint venture company in genetic engineering by Celtech, backed by the British Technology Group, and the multinational US corporation, Air Products.

Apoc is a fifty-fifty venture of the two parents. Announcing the project on (Thursday), Mr Gerard Fairlough, chief executive of Celtech, said the intention was to extend genetic engineering discoveries used for medical purposes into industrial microbiology.

High street share-buying

Building societies would be a good place for the public to buy and sell shares, Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the National Consumer Council, said yesterday.

"It is important that buying and selling shares should be easy for the consumer", he said in a statement. "At the moment share trading is conducted mostly by faceless people at the end of telephones."

Consumer Council research had shown that building

societies' customers valued what they see as the friendly service they get from societies.

"It is important, too, that when consumers buy and sell shares they can trust the people they instruct," Mr Montague said.

The Consumer Council response to the Government's Green Paper on Building Societies, to be made public soon, will say that societies should not be prevented from providing a wider range of financial services.

Sharing the workload

"Secretaries who work for up to 20 different 'bosses' become confused and their work suffers. The Industrial Society says today. It is to launch a campaign on November 27 to help managers get the best results from shared secretaries."

The campaign leader, Ms Corinne Devery, said: "Many organizations believe that they will be more cost effective if secretaries are shared. But poor management often means sec-

retaries are so dissatisfied that financial savings are wasted."

"One company lost all of its secretaries after deciding to share them out. Managers who share a secretary must establish a clear idea of the workload. They must keep in touch with other bosses who are working with the same secretary."

"Secretaries themselves must use their initiative and plan their time to get the best results."

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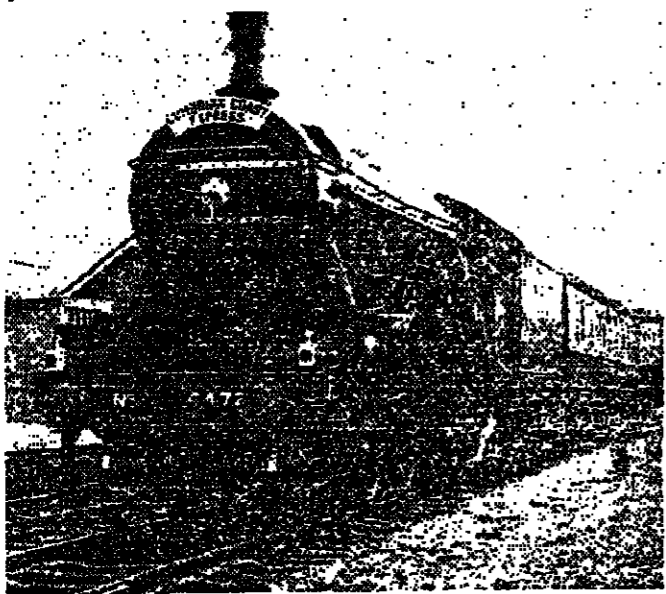
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A sight of yesteryear: The type of steam excursion which is proving a big fare attraction for British Rail.

The right to buy: 1

Winning policy becomes lever for social change

On the eve of the privatization of British Telecom, DAVID WALKER, Social Policy Correspondent, charts in a three-part series the progress of the largest single transfer of state assets to the private sector: the sale of council houses.

Almost unnoticed in the excitement caused by the miners' strike, the Labour Party annual conference recently accepted the right of tenants to buy their own homes.

Labour's policy is hedged with qualifications, but its essence is unmistakable. The owner-occupation impulse seems unstoppable. With the right to buy provisions of the 1980 Housing Act, sweetened further in the 1984 Housing and Building Control Act, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's government found not just a winning policy, but a lever for changing the social landscape.

Sales to date in England, excluding sales under previous arrangements for tenant purchase, total 404,000 council dwellings and some 4,000 new town properties. At a rough average of net capital receipts to councils of £10,000 a dwelling, this represents an addition of more than £4bn to council income.

The paper value of this property to tenants, who have bought at discounts of between

30 and 50 per cent, could be £10bn easily as much as British Telecom is likely to raise.

The table shows sales to date, for council and new town property measured against the stock of dwellings at December 31, 1983.

These sales have pushed council tenures down to about 28 per cent of all English households: owner occupiers now represent at least 63 per cent and the proportion continues to grow.

The peak in annual sales has passed. But sales are likely to continue at a steady level. Mr Alan Murie of Bristol University's School of Advanced Urban Studies said: "There is a family life-cycle effect, as people grow up and leave home, the pool of potential owner occupiers gets new recruits."

But he adds that the key to sales is what happens to council rents: the higher they rise, the more incentive there is to buy.

For the Treasury, council house sales have become a vital element in calculations. In the current financial year councils are deemed to be receiving £1.4bn from them, which allows central government to cut the amount it permits council to borrow to build new houses. Even if, by 1986, the rate of sales has fallen to predicted levels the Treasury should be able to count on at least £500m flowing in annually.

Tomorrow: the human impact of right to buy

Council house sales		
Sales to date	Household stock (Dec 1983)	% sold
England	4,788,000	8.5
Scotland	1,016,000	8.0
Wales	272,000	12.4

Councils 'forced to hire extra staff'

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

The Government has forced councils to appoint more than 15,000 extra staff in the past five years, according to a research paper commissioned by local authorities for a key meeting with ministers tomorrow.

The paper was prepared from data supplied by Labour and Conservative councils by the Local Authorities Conditions of Service Advisory Board for the main autumn meeting at which councils bargain with ministers about finance.

Ministers claim that one reason why they need special powers against councils is the small size of the cut in the total local government workforce in

the past five years compared with the deep cuts in the civil service.

But the research paper says that the size of the cuts made by councils has been masked by a small increase forced on them by the Government. It adds that the effect accelerated last year when most of the increase in council staffing complained of by ministers was the Government's own fault.

The research shows that councils have appointed an extra 600 staff in the past five years to handle house sales and more than 3,500 to administer the new system of housing benefits.

Irish potato quality not what it was

The quality of potatoes in the Irish Republic is not what it was, and after almost 300 samples from stores in Dublin and Carlow failed to meet grading standards, the Government is doing something about it.

A licensing system for growers is under review, with the prospect of fines of up to £1,000 (£840) and the threat of revoking the licence if the farmer is in serious breach of regulations.

Many consumers have been buying potatoes imported from Britain and The Netherlands because the quality of home-grown produce is so poor.

Of 288 samples bought over a six-month period, almost half had more than the permitted level of diseased tubers. Mechanical damage affected one fifth and 95.8 per cent failed to meet existing regulations on substandard potatoes.

Gangrene was the main disease affecting acceptability, regulations on grading by size appeared to be ignored and 90 per cent did not state the name and address of the packer or information about variety and quantity.

Rural Scotland campaign starts

A campaign to protect rural Scotland against over-cultivation farming was launched in Perth with the blessing of the Government, farmers and conservation bodies.

The Scottish Farming and Wildlife Trust Appeal is to appoint full-time farm conservation advisers in 14 areas throughout Scotland to advise farmers and landowners on projects that will protect hedgerows, woodland, encourage shelter belts and improve the landscape.

Penny benefit

A cheque for one penny in underpaid supplementary benefit has been sent to an unemployed man, Mr Andrew Wilson, of Moulton Chapel, Lincolnshire, by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Theatre walk-out

More than 20 people walked out of a gala reopening of the Gaity Theatre in Dublin when Peter O'Toole read Swift satire which suggested that poor people should eat their children to help the economy.

Fish killed

Hundreds of freshwater fish, bream, pike and roach have died in the Gaywood river at King's Lynn Norfolk after sea water flooded in when a sluice jammed at high tide.



Starring role: Miss Heather Cooper, who on Wednesday became President of the British Astronomical Association, formed 94 years ago. In the tradition of the organization, Miss Cooper was nominated for the two-year job by the outgoing holder, Mr Patrick Moore.

The association is the leading organization for amateur and professional astronomers to meet together. Miss Cooper studied astrophysics at Leicester University, did research at Oxford and supervised the Planetarium at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. She will be president when the most intensive observations are made of Halley's Comet at the end of next year and the beginning of 1986, when it returns on its 74-year-cycle. (Photograph by Peter Addis).

Medical research to be cut again

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Spending on medical research will be cut by more than £2m next year. That follows reductions this year by the Medical Research Council, including the ending of work by groups specializing in brain research and diseases affecting children.

The cut is explained in a letter to universities from Sir James Gowans, secretary of the Medical Research Council. He says it has to be made even though "the seriousness of the circumstances" have been presented in separate meetings to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and the Prime Minister.

From this month the money available for research projects over three-year periods will be cut by £1.7m. Support for five-year programmes will be reduced by £500,000 from the end of the year.

Another effect is that the number of students who could expect grant support automati-

cally will fall from 710 to 570.

In enforcing cuts, the Government has rejected proposals from its own Advisory Board from the Research Councils, recommending that additional funding of more than £3m a year for the next three years, in particular on brain research and nervous diseases, food and nutritional sciences, and diagnostic imaging. Council spending this year totals £10m.

The Science and Engineering Research Council, with a budget of £250m, is required to contribute £7m to the cost of reorganisation of the Agricultural and Food Research Council (£46m budget) and the Natural Environment Research Council (£62m budget).

The money saved from medical research will also be used for that reorganisation. The difficulties of research councils has been compounded because they were not allowed to accumulate a contingency fund in earlier years.

World airlines expected to make a profit for first time in five years

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

World airlines expect to move into overall profit this year for the first time since the slump began in 1979, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) disclosed in Montreal yesterday. That profit should increase over the next two years, IATA say in their latest annual report, but the financial outlook is finely balanced and could easily be upset by some slight adverse trend.

Global profit for IATAs 134 member airlines in 1984 is predicted at \$1,200m on a turnover of \$41,500m for 1984, compared with a loss of \$300m last year, and peak losses of \$1,900m in 1980 and 1981 when the slump was at its worst.

Next year profits will rise to \$1,500m and in 1986 to \$1,700m, IATA predict. But although "we may now be catching a long-awaited glimpse of the proverbial silver lining in

the clouds hovering on the horizon", says Mr Knut Hammarvik, IATA's director general, profit margins are expected to remain wafer-thin, and continued vigilance and determination to cut costs and improve yields are as vital as ever.

For the first six months of this year passenger traffic rose eight per cent and freight 16 per cent, and with costs and capacity well under control, load factors are expected to reach record levels with a three per cent rise in the first half over last year.

Traffic growth in 1983 was smaller at an average three per cent, with wide variations from one part of the world to another.

The biggest growth area was the Middle East, with a 17 per cent gain in traffic to and from the Far East, and 12 per cent from Europe. Across the

Pacific traffic grew nine per cent, and across the Atlantic seven per cent.

But growth on these routes was balanced by shrinkage on other routes, with traffic loss between Europe and South Africa, Europe and Australia, and North America and South America.

The report has strong words against violence towards airlines and their passengers both by States and by hijackers. IATA will support a new international convention prohibiting the use of arms force against civil aircraft, the report says. And on hijacking, Mr Hammarvik declares: "It is vital that all governments recognise that it is in their own interests to create a climate in which there is no safe harbour without severe legal consequences ever available to the hijacker" anywhere in the world.

Chad peace meeting collapses

Brassaville (AFP) — Talks on ending the civil war in Chad collapsed here at the weekend over insistence by the Njame-na delegation of Mr Hissène Habré that it be recognized by the participants as the country's legal government.

The head of one of the Chad political-military factions taking part in the week of discussions, Mr Tourgoudi Ouchar of the Action and Coordination Committee, said in a Congolese television interview that the Habré delegation had come to the conference only "to get themselves appointed" and had not been interested in "the real problems".

Mr Antoine Ndjanga Oba, the Congolese Foreign Minister, adjourned the talks indefinitely on Saturday after several days of deadlock over the recognition issue. He said there would be no progress after a "temporary separation", but the path to peace in the "complex" Chad tragedy was necessarily long and required patient effort.

The failure of the talks became likely on Friday when the Habré delegation and their main rivals, the Libyan-backed forces of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei, accused each other of preparing to resume the civil war once the mutual Libyan-French troop withdrawal, now under way, was completed.

Mr Goukouni Lassoum, the Chad Foreign Minister, said Libyan troops had been on the alert in northern Chad for two days and that the Goukouni forces hoped to be in Njame-na by December. His view was echoed on Saturday by the commander-in-chief of Mr Habré's army, Mr Adoum Yacoub Kourou, a foreign policy aide to Mr Goukouni, denied this and said Njame-na was "preparing aggression".

The smaller faction leaders, such as Mr Tourgoudi Ouchar, were unable to break the recognition deadlock between the Habré and Goukouni forces.



Mr Hissène Habré: Insisted on recognition

Top Filipino officers say Ver is innocent

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Almost the entire High Command of the Philippines armed forces yesterday swore that "indisputable" for the Chief of Staff, General Fabian Ver, in the murder of Benigno Aquino.

The 68 top military officers took a full-page advertisement in Manila's largest pro-government newspaper, to declare their "unwavering loyalty and support" for General Ver, against the "unsubstantiated" charges against him, the officers said in a 200-word manifesto signed by 61 generals and seven flag officers.

General Ver's deputy, Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos, did not sign the statement.

General Ver, two other generals, 22 military personnel and one civilian were last week

named in the majority report of the 10-month commission of inquiry as "indisputable" for the premeditated murder of Mr Aquino.

President Marcos told army reservists at the weekend that there was no indication that he would be toppled "by either bullet or ballot".

Mr Marcos referred to President Reagan's comments last week that the choice in the Philippines was between support for the Marcos administration or a communist takeover. The statement was condemned by Filipino opposition groups despite the quick State Department clarification that Mr Reagan did not mean to imply that the choice was that narrow.

"The answer to that should have been: there is no indication that the Marcos administration can be overturned by either the bullet or the ballot," Mr Marcos said.

India visit by informal Princess

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Princess Anne arrived at Delhi airport yesterday to begin a tour of India, in what will plainly be maximum informality.

There was no official Indian welcome at the airport, merely a group from Britain's High Commission and the British Council. The Princess was hatless and wore a sleeveless lilac kilted dress.

The Andover of the Queen's Flight had brought her from Dhaka in Bangladesh, where her visits to projects run by the Save the Children Fund, of which she is president, were marked by an equal lack of formality.

The Princess's 12-day tour of India will take her through some of the world's most dramatic scenery in Calcutta, where she will meet Mother Teresa, and to some of the most beautiful areas in the world, Jaipur, Fort in Rajasthan, and the Mughal hill station in the Himalayan foothills.

The only formal events come today, when she pays a visit to the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi at the spot where he was cremated by the banks of the Yamuna River, and where she calls upon Mr R. Venkateswaram, the Vice-President. She will also call on Mrs Gandhi on Wednesday and dine with her at the Prime Minister's residence.

Prado gets more room for display

From Harry Dobell, Madrid

The Prado museum in Madrid will soon triple its space and regain control of its own affairs from the Government.

The Minister of Culture, Señor Javier Solana, said at a news conference that January 1, when the new measures are to go into effect, "will be a historic day for the Prado museum and for the culture of our country".

The museum will gain much needed additional space, by taking over two historic buildings nearby. One is the Hall of the Kings, the present Army museum, which is almost all that remains of the seventeenth-century Retiro Palace complex.

The other is an eighteenth-century building, the Villahermosa Palace, recently used by a bank. The museum will regain control of its own affairs through the establishment of a Prado Foundation, which will remove it from the direct control of the Ministry of Culture and simplify bureaucratic and administrative matters.

As the Villahermosa Palace was restored only a few years ago, the museum can start using much of the additional space as soon as the new measures take effect.

A Culture Ministry spokesman said many of the works, now stored for lack of display space, will soon be on show to the public.

Politics and dollar hit bridge Olympiad

From a Bridge Correspondent, Seattle

Fifty-five countries are competing in the seventh World Bridge Team Olympiad which opened here yesterday, and that in itself is something of an achievement.

Some time ago it became clear that more than a third of the member countries would not be permitted to compete if South Africa was in the field. The South African Bridge Federation saved the day by announcing that they would not submit an entry.

Next, the withdrawal of Russia and its satellites from the Los Angeles Olympics virtually assured the non-participation of the Eastern block countries with the exception of Poland, one of the strongest European bridge playing countries.

Then the strength of the US dollar led to the withdrawal of a number of countries.

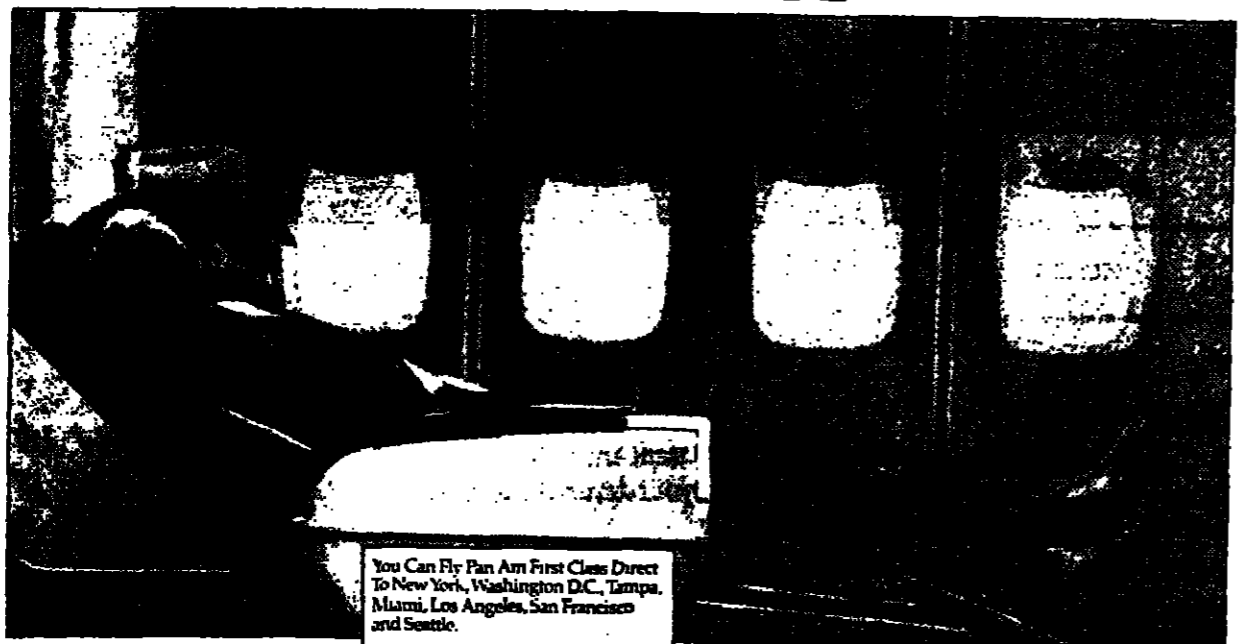
In the open series 54 countries are divided into two pools of 27 teams who will meet each other over the next eight days, playing three matches each of three hours duration for nine successive days at the end of which the leading four countries in each pool will qualify for the quarter-final stage.

Great Britain will be represented by L. Rose and R. Sheehan (London), W. Coyle and B. Shenkin (Scotland) and R. Smolksi and K. Stanley (Notts and Warwickshire) with R. Armstrong of the North-West as non-playing captain. In Pool "A" Britain will meet

five of the quarter-finalists from the last Olympiad — France (the defending champions) the Netherlands, Denmark, Brazil and Taiwan (officially listed as "Chinese Taipei") while Canada, New Zealand, Israel and Poland are also expected to mount a strong challenge.

The USA, in Pool "B" are favourites both for the open and ladies titles. In the ladies event they are the defending champions but Britain, represented by Sally Sowter and Sandra Landy, Nicola Smith and Pat Davies, Gill Scott-Jones and Sarah Scarborough, are reigning world champions and it will be a considerable surprise if both teams do not survive to the semi-final stages.

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Observer sales report cleared

A report in *The Observer* which said agents of British Safety Council Sales Ltd had used the official-sounding name to persuade companies to buy goods was not inaccurate, untrue or distorted, the Press Council said yesterday.

The council said it found no subterfuge, did not accept that the reporter, Miss Angela Broom, from Northpix press agency of Liverpool, passed herself off as doing a market survey. The complaint has been made by Mr James Tye, director general of the British Safety Council.

Side of the law

A firm of solicitors in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, is to take advantage of the new rules allowing advertising by sponsoring a Wisbech Town football match, a Wisbech Association Vase competition.

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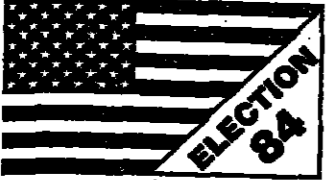
The electoral system: Part 1

America's cumbersome compromise

In the first of three articles on the electoral system of the United States, Nicholas Ashford, chief Washington Correspondent, examines the mechanics of electing a president.

Although the world will know some time during the early hours of November 7 (possibly even earlier if there is a landslide) who the next President of the United States will be, he will not be chosen officially until January 7.

That is the day when a joint session of the two Houses of Congress will be held in Washington to count the votes allocated to the two candidates by an electoral college. That



body will have already met on December 17 (which happens to be the first Monday after the second Wednesday of December, as laid down in the Constitution) to cast its ballots.

For almost two centuries Americans have been electing their presidents under a cumbersome and complex system conceived by the Founding Fathers as a compromise between electing presidents by Congress or direct popular vote.

Although various attempts have been made to abolish the electoral college, most recently in 1977, the system has survived the radical transformation of the United States from

an agricultural seaboard nation to a superpower.

Under the electoral college system, each state is entitled to electoral votes equal in number to its Congressional delegation - in other words, the number of representatives from that state, plus two more for the state's two senators.

The state with the biggest number of votes in the electoral college is California, with 47. The smallest are Alaska, Delaware, the District of Columbia, North and South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming, each of which have three.

Under a system which has developed over the years, the votes in each state are considered as separate mini-elections and the winner takes all the electoral college votes to which each state is entitled. Thus, if President Reagan wins a majority of the popular vote in, say, Texas, he will get all of that state's 29 electoral college votes.

The next President will be the candidate who wins a majority of the 538 votes cast by the electoral college, that is, at least 270 votes. In the unlikely event that neither candidate receives a majority, the task of choosing the President falls to the House of Representatives.

Because of the way the system works, it is possible for a candidate to be elected President without winning a majority of the popular vote. In fact, there have been no fewer than 15 "minority" presidents, the most recent being Kennedy in 1960 and Nixon in 1968.

Three of them - John Quincy Adams (1824), Rutherford

ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES.

Alabama 9, Alaska 3, Arizona 7, Arkansas 6, California 47, Colorado 8, Connecticut 8, Delaware 3, District of Columbia 3, Florida 21, Georgia 12, Hawaii 4, Idaho 4, Illinois 24, Indiana 12, Iowa 6, Kansas 7, Kentucky 9, Louisiana 10, Maine 4, Maryland 10, Massachusetts 13, Michigan 20, Minnesota 10, Mississippi 7, Missouri 11, Montana 4, Nebraska 5, Nevada 4, New Hampshire 4, New Jersey 16, New Mexico 5, New York 36, North Carolina 13, North Dakota 3, Ohio 23, Oklahoma 8, Oregon 7, Pennsylvania 25, Rhode Island 4, South Carolina 8, South Dakota 3, Tennessee 11, Texas 29, Utah 5, Vermont 3, Virginia 12, Washington 10, West Virginia 6, Wisconsin 11, Wyoming 3.

Hayes (1876) and Benjamin Harrison (1888) actually polled their opponents in the popular vote.

During election campaigns presidential candidates have traditionally concentrated their attention on the "big seven" states - California (47), New York (36), Texas (29), Pennsylvania (25), Illinois (24), Ohio (23) and Michigan (20) - which between them account for 204 of the total electoral college votes.

Another key area, particularly in this election, is the South, where 12 states (excluding Texas) account for a further 124 votes.

Voting patterns of the past two decades suggest that Mr

Walter Mondale, the Democratic challenger, will not be able to break the present cycle of Republican presidential domination even if he manages significantly to close the gap between himself and Mr Reagan during the remaining days of the campaign.

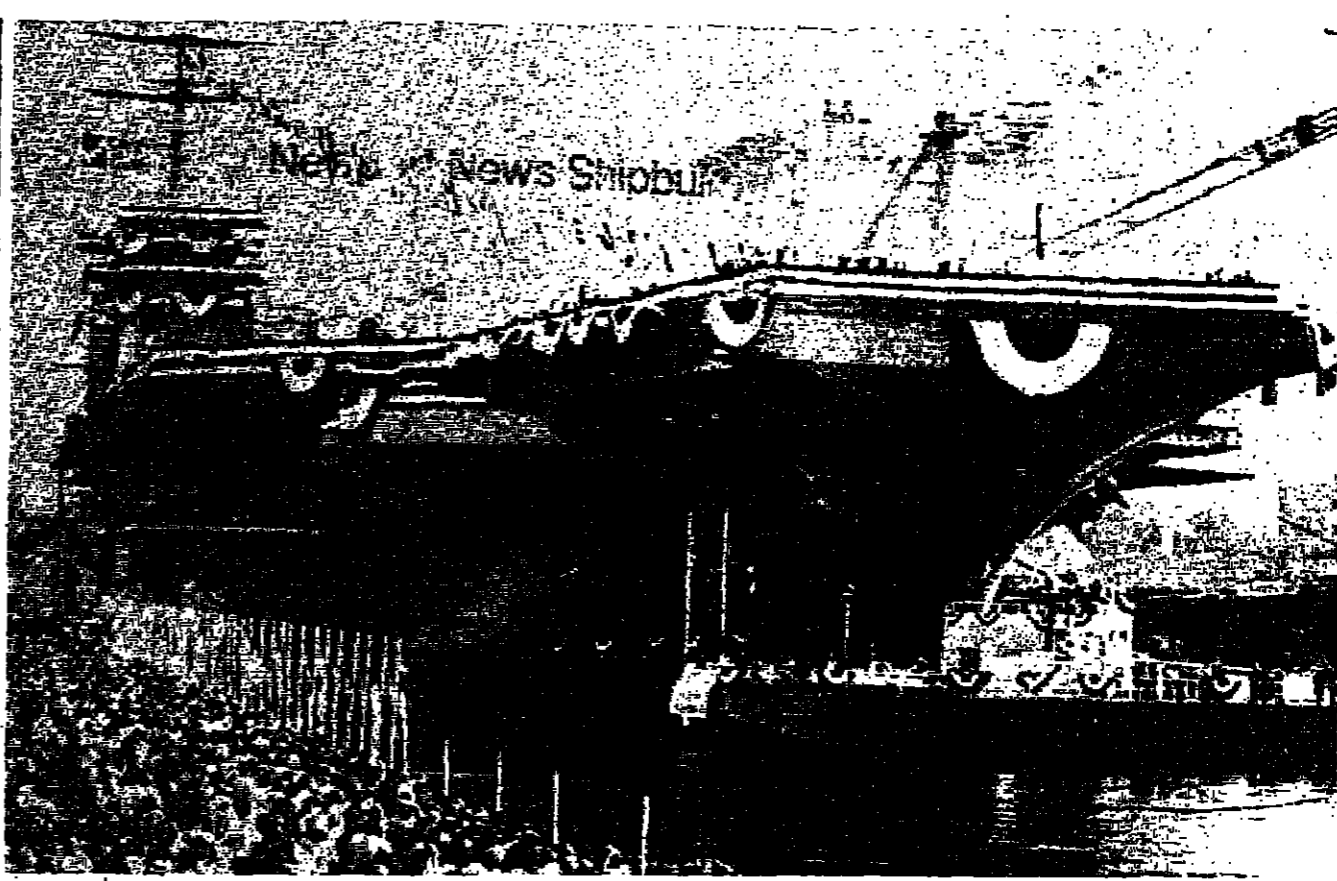
California, Illinois and Ohio have not voted for Democratic candidates since 1964, Michigan since 1968. Although Texas has been traditionally Democratic, polls show that it will be voting decisively Republican this November, like the rest of the Sun Belt.

Mr Mondale's best hope lies in New York and Pennsylvania. Any flickering hope the Democrats have of winning the election will evaporate if they do not carry Pennsylvania.

Mr Mondale's only real chance of causing an upset is through a huge increase in voter turnout. Here again there are very few straws for the Democrats to grab at. Although it is widely expected that 1984 will reverse the steady decline in voter turnout which has been taking place since 1960 (86.5 million people voted in the 1980 presidential election, 53.2 per cent of the voting-age population, compared with 63.1 per cent in 1960), a dramatic increase is not anticipated.

The Democrats had hoped to compensate for the drift of many of their traditional supporters to the Republican Party by registering large numbers of new voters, particularly blacks. However, their registration drive has been matched by the Republicans.

Tomorrow: The other contests.



Europe seeks bigger Nato role

From John Earle
Rome

Seven European countries have taken a modest step towards reviving the dormant Western European Union as a counterweight to United States dominance in the Nato alliance. A meeting here, at the end of last week of foreign and defence ministers of the seven member countries decided they will meet regularly twice a year in future.

while a more lively role is planned for WEU's 89-member parliamentary assembly.

The union, consisting of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Holland, Luxembourg and Belgium, was founded 30 years ago with the intention of ensuring that West German rearmament was kept in bounds. For years this has ceased to have meaning. Its new role is providing a European voice in Western defence and

Portugal has applied to join and Spain is reported to be interested in doing so.

The ministers instructed the WEU permanent council to reorganize its arms control agency and standing armaments committee, to be better able to study matters such as arms control, problems of disarmament, and security, and joint European production and purchase of arms.

NUCLEAR POWER: To the cheers of thousands of spectators the US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt was dedicated at Newport News, on Saturday. Virginia built at a cost of \$2.7 billion (£2.2 billion) the Theodore Roosevelt will join the American fleet in early 1986 as its fifth nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. It will carry a crew of 6,000 and nearly 100 fighter aircraft.

Two-nation Mafia crackdown

Colombos toppled by FBI 'sting'

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The gangbusters are stamping hard on the manicured fingers of the Mafia.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is keeping its promise to hammer the top Cosa Nostra families who control organized crime in America. One after another, Mafia godfathers and their lieutenants have been arrested.

The latest round of arrests and indictments, the charging of the entire 11-man leadership of the Colombo family, is a devastating blow for the Mafia and a coup for the FBI.

The Colombo family ranks third in the hierarchy of five Cosa Nostra families in New York. The others are Gambino, Genovese, Bonanno and Lucchese, all taking their names from former leaders.

The Colombo men, arrested after a three-year investigation called "star quest", were charged with running drug, gambling and protection.

Said to control union branches in the construction,



Mr Carmine Persico: Gang boss known as The Snake

transport and restaurant businesses, they are charged with extorting money from building companies and restaurants by threatening violence.

An FBI officer said: "The finely-manicured hands of the Colombo family were at every construction site in New York. You can pour concrete in this city without paying off the Colombo family."

Among those indicted are Mr Carmine Persico, known as The Snake, who took the leadership of the Colombo gang after Joseph Colombo died six years ago.

The FBI collected some of its evidence against the Colombo group from a "sting" operation in which an agent, posing as a dealer in stolen goods, entertained gangsters on board a yacht in New York.

Last year the FBI announced that it had infiltrated the families of the Cosa Nostra, which means "our business", and would devastate them with indictments.

Since then many important members of the families, and their henchmen, have been charged.

The FBI has been given new leads from Italy by the confessions of Tommaso Buscetta, the former Sicilian Mafia boss.

The FBI says the Mafia in the United States has about 2,000 formal members, and each of these has about ten associates. Spreading out from drug dealing and loan and protection rackets, the Mafia is moving increasingly into fraud to loot pension funds, into union racketeering, and into legitimate business.

rival gang to another and his execution had been decided by the "Commission" composed of local heads of Mafia families.

Wearing a blue blazer and grey flannel trousers, "Don Masino" as he is known was brought under heavy guard from his place of detention, which is being kept secret for fear of reprisals. His confessions have resulted in warrants for the arrest of 366 people.

Buscetta gives evidence

From Our Correspondent, Rome

Signor Tommaso Buscetta, the former Mafia boss whose information made possible the biggest round-up for years of members of the Sicilian criminal organization, has appeared in court here for the first time - as a witness.

In 13 minutes of evidence of Friday he confirmed that Pietro Marchese, a Mafia member stabbed to death inside Palermo prison two years ago, had changed sides from one

Mitterrand's state visit

France laments loss of British sense of humour

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand's four-day state visit to Britain will be remembered here for emphasizing the excessive touchiness and uneasy feelings of rivalry between France and Britain, rather than the underlying, more important, *entente cordiale* it was supposed to be celebrating.

The explosives incident in the French Ambassador's gardens is seen to have completely overshadowed the visit, which would have passed off otherwise without particular comment, apart perhaps from a few half-envious descriptions of the traditional pomp and pageantry of the British Court and Parliament. The French are still monarchists at heart.

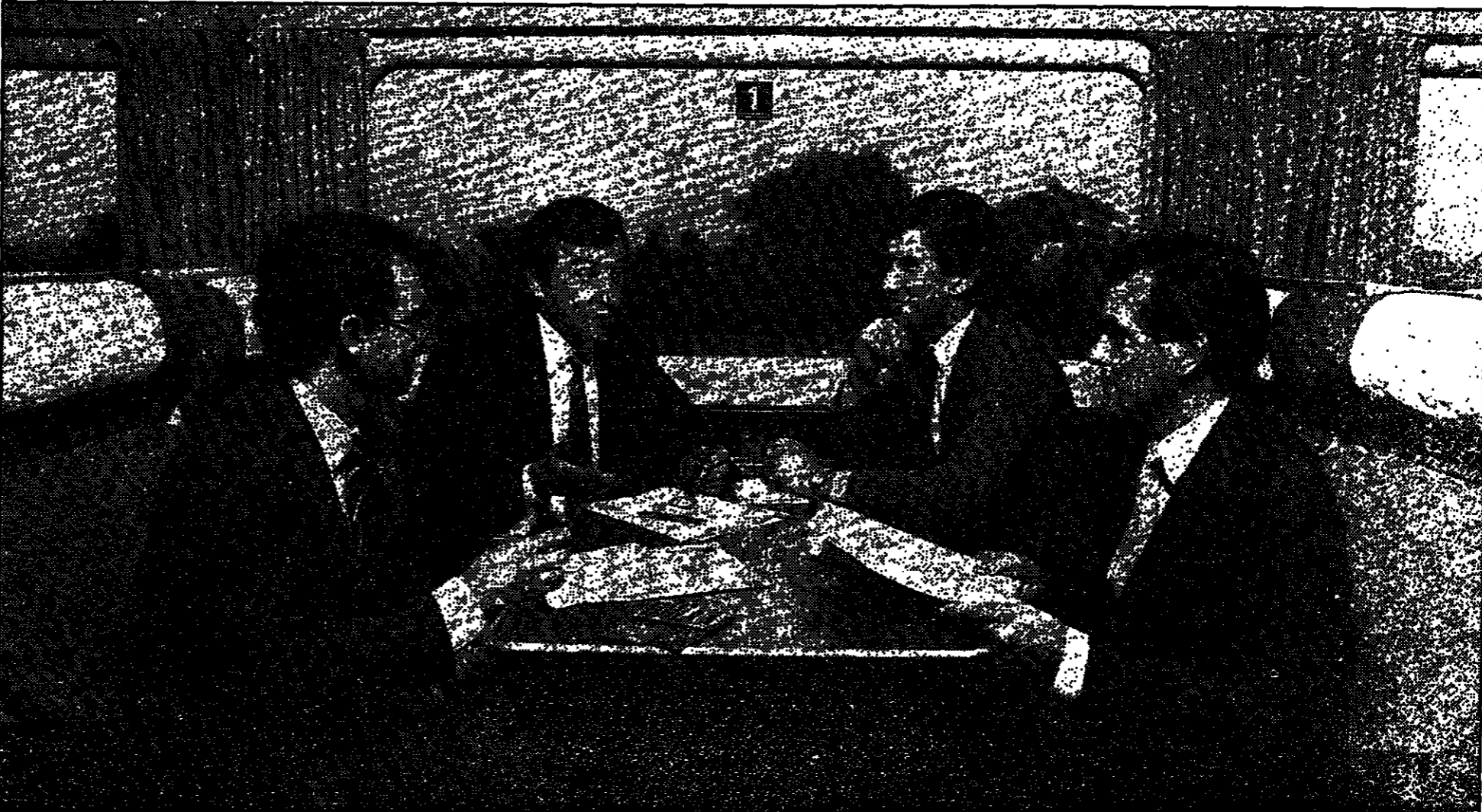
Britain's version of events is generally accepted as more accurate than that of the French police. But there is, amazement and horror here at the virulence of much of the British press and certain MPs, considered out of all proportion to the importance of the actual event.

Was it not just a little prank by a policeman which unfortunately misfired, the French ask. For many, it is simply evidence that the much-valued British sense of humour does not apply when that humour is directed against them.

In a front-page leading article on Friday, *Le Monde* commented somewhat sadly: "The immediate reappearance of strong anti-French feelings (among the British) seems to have reduced to nothing the anticipated effect of this visit, whose sole purpose was to consecrate Franco-British relations."

The visit, however, seems to have ended on a happier note. French journalists were pleasantly surprised that, after all the unpleasant brouhaha, their British colleagues chose to mark Mitterrand's sixty-eighth birthday by singing "Happy Birthday" to him at his closing press conference on Friday. Perhaps that sense of humour was there after all.

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Kidnap exposes Warsaw's view of a good and bad church

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Under the high-vaulted roof of Saint Stanislaw Kostka Church in Warsaw, the candles flickered yesterday for the frail, outspoken Father Jerzy Popieluszko, kidnapped and possibly murdered by a gang of frustrated police officers.

An event that would, under slightly different circumstances, have been the tragedy of a nation, exposing the frailty of the Jaruzelski Government's claim to have restored "normality" to Poland.

The kidnapping has moved and outraged Poles more powerfully than anything since the declaration of martial law almost three years ago.

The measure of a crisis, in Poland at least, is how far the Government has to go to explain itself to the people. When General Czeslaw Kiszczak, the Interior Minister, appeared on television - a medium favoured in crisis by such ill-starred leaders as Edward Giersek on Saturday night to explain the kidnapping, there was little doubt in Poland that the Government was in trouble.

A policeman, Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, has confessed to killing the 37-year-old priest, while his two accomplices say they dumped him, still alive, outside Torun: conflicting testimony that has fuelled speculation in Solidarity circles that the priest is alive and has been, for no clear reason, smuggled out of the country.

Certainly, the body has not been found, although Captain Piotrowski took the searchers to the scene of the alleged murder. Is the captain covering up for



General Kiszczak: TV account only half believed

others in the higher reaches of the security establishment by taking the murder charge on himself?

Already, there are three clear consequences of the Popieluszko affair for the Government. Firstly the leadership, which has been starting the wheels of an anti-clerical campaign, must think again about its approach to the Church. The Government seems to think the Catholic Church is divided into a good bit, epitomized by Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Primate with which deals can be done, and a bad bit, in the form of "political adventurers" like Father Popieluszko, who are to be abhorred.

With the "good" Church, the Government negotiates a scheme to channel Western funds to private farmers. Against the "bad" church, all verbal attacks are acceptable. Communist Party journalists are briefed by the head of Propaganda to be more aggressive in their treatment of Catholicism.

Secondly, the Interior Ministry will have to purge its ranks. The kidnap is not the first

murky event to be inspired from within that odd ministry, which has overall control of both the uniformed and the secret police a break-in at a church aid centre in Warsaw last year and countless unexplained and uninvestigated cases of harassment against Solidarity activists point to a group within the ministry that is unhappy with the slow, bureaucratic action against the union and its sympathizers.

Finally, the authorities will have to start again to try and build a bridge of trust between the Government and the people.

The autonomy of political prisoners in July went some way towards placating a sceptical nation. Now the suspicion is back. Father Popieluszko was loved not because he was a champion of Solidarity - there are many more of those - but because he said that speaking the truth was a moral imperative.

When General Kiszczak went on the much-disputed television on Saturday and promised justice, he was only half believed. Most Poles believe there will be a cover-up.

'Coventry Four' accuse Britain

From Michael Horasby, Johannesburg

The "Coventry Four" the South Africans accused of smuggling arms from Britain, appeared at a press conference in Pretoria on Saturday and admitted they had operated as undercover agents for five years.

They also alleged that they had been subjected to harsh and degrading treatment by British customs and excise officials when they were arrested last March, and claimed it was doubtful they would have received a fair trial in Britain because of the influence of continuous, politically inspired propaganda on members of the jury.

The provocative staging of the press conference suggests that Pretoria, despite strong criti-

cism at home and abroad of its decision last month not to return the four for trial in Britain, is still in a bellicose mood.

South Africa's decision not to return the four men - Mr Hendrik Botha, Mr Stephanus de Jager, Mr Jacobus la Grange and Mr William Metelkcamp - was taken in reprisal for Britain's refusal to extradite the original six political dissidents who sought refuge in its consulate in Durban on September 13.

Mr Metelkcamp and Mr Botha said that they were arrested at the White House Hotel in London on March 29. Mr Metelkcamp said three men, who later identified themselves as customs and

excise officials, entered his room, using a duplicate key. He was asked to strip. "It was humiliating and degrading as even my private parts were examined," he claimed.

He was then told to pack a suitcase, but was not allowed to wear either his belt or his shoes, despite freezing wet weather. His captors allegedly told him that no one could run far in London without shoes or a belt.

Mr Botha was also arrested in his hotel room. The four men appeared in court in Coventry on March 31. They said that they were then subjected to solitary confinement and intensive interrogation in Winslow Green prison until April 9, when they were released on bail.

Guatemalan rebels fighting on

By Colin Harding

The four Guatemalan guerrilla organizations grouped in the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) have launched a campaign in America and Europe to counter persistent reports that the Guatemalan Army has succeeded in crushing the armed opposition.

A URNG representative said in London that three of its four members had armed units in the field and had succeeded in repelling Army offensives in recent weeks in the departments of San Marcos, Suchitepéquez and El Peten.

Senior Rogelio Martinez, of the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR), said the guerrillas had learnt important lessons from the

defeats inflicted by the military following the coup led by General Efraim Rios Montt in 1982. They were now concentrating on building up larger, more mobile forces and reestablishing contact with rural peasants in areas where it had been broken by the scorched earth and strategic hamlets policies pursued by the armed forces.

Mubarak seeks EEC initiative

From Alice Britton, Cairo

President Mubarak begins a visit to France and West Germany in Paris tomorrow where he is expected to request European support to reactivate the deadlocked Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Egyptian newspapers quoted their correspondents in Paris and Bonn as saying yesterday that President Mubarak will brief President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl on ways of reviving the stalled Middle East peace process. The official Middle East news agency said that President Mubarak's talks in Europe will be aimed at "developing the European position regarding the Arab cause."

According to informed Egyptian sources, President Mubarak may well seek to reactivate the Franco-Egyptian peace plan, formulated in 1982 during Israel's invasion of Lebanon. The sources said that this plan, with that of Fez and the Reagan peace plan, could form the basis for renewed negotiations on the quest for an overall Middle East peace once the US presidential elections are over.



Journey's end: Sir Geoffrey Howe being welcomed to Israel last night by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister. Sir Geoffrey had made an unannounced visit to Beirut

Rocket attack on Arab bus

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

A rocket attack on a crowded Arab bus near one of Jerusalem's busiest areas yesterday has raised fears that members of a Jewish terrorist underground group are still at large, in spite of the round-up earlier this year. One man was killed and at least eight injured in the attack, launched as the bus passed the Jewish district of Yehuda Moshe on its way from east Jerusalem towards the occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem.

An anti-tank rocket launcher was found on a hillside overlooking the wrecked vehicle. Also discovered was a note written in poor Hebrew claiming that the attack had been mounted in revenge for last week's brutal murder near Bethlehem of two young Jewish hikers. Both had been shot with a stolen rifle and a resident of a Palestine refugee camp near the

town later took police to the spot and confessed. Last night Israel's new Police Minister, Mr Chaim Bar-Lev, was questioned about the daylight rocket attack. "It is clear that this was done by a group or individual who decided to take the law into his own hands," he said. "It is something no democratic society can accept."

Last week's Bethlehem murders, which were particularly grisly, were followed by an outcry among Jewish settlement leaders who demanded tougher government action to protect Jews in the occupied areas. Some of these demands were believed to have been repeated in yesterday's note claiming responsibility for the bus explosion.

About 20 suspected Jewish terrorists are facing trial in Jerusalem accused of a series of

attacks against Arabs in the West Bank stretching back to the car bomb blast which maimed two Palestinian mayors in 1980.

Three of the accused began a hunger strike yesterday in protest against the decision of Israel's equivalent of Britain's M15 to refer to them as "security prisoners", the term usually reserved for suspected Arab terrorists.

Senior members of Israel's national unity Government were quick to condemn the bus attack.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, expressed revulsion at all forms of terrorism and pledged that the Government would take all the necessary steps to arrest the perpetrators. Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, described the incident as "a detestable attack on innocent citizens."

Moscow fears new US peace drive

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet Union was gaining influence in the Arab world while the United States was losing face, *Pravda* said at the weekend.

But diplomats said the Kremlin was worried that recent moves in the Arab world might encourage a re-elected President Reagan to launch a new peace initiative in the Middle East, and that Moscow wanted to ensure it was not left out in the cold again.

Pravda said on Saturday that the recent series of high-level

Arab visits to Moscow showed that the Soviet approach to the Middle East was gaining ground. "Soviet foreign policy is increasingly attractive to the Arabs because it meets their natural aspirations and is aimed at establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East," it said.

The Soviet proposal for an international conference attended by America, Russia, Israel, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Arab states had support from almost

all interested Arab countries. Israel and the United States, by contrast, spoke to the Arabs in the language of *Diktat* and had shown no interest in restoring normality to the Middle East.

Moscow has restored diplomatic relations with Egypt, made approaches to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and received a stream of leaders from the two Yemenis, Iraq, and Syria. King Husain of Jordan had been expected in Moscow this month but a Soviet spokesman said there was still no firm date.

Iran blames Red Cross for jail riot

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran blamed delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross for provoking a riot at a prison camp earlier this month during which five Iraqi prisoners of war were killed.

An Iranian Foreign Ministry official was quoted as saying the incident occurred on October 9 when delegates were visiting the camp and he said three of the Iraqis were killed by fellow prisoners. He accused the Red Cross of distorting the incident and using it for anti-Iranian propaganda.

Bandit gives up

Delhi (Reuters) - A bandit chief with a price on his head and eight members of his gang have surrendered to police, All-India Radio said. Ramesh Sikarwar and his gang are accused of more than 25 murders and 30 kidnappings.

Dissident freed

Vienna (Reuters) - Jaromir Savrda, aged 51, a prominent dissident writer, has been released from prison after serving a 25-month term on charges of subversion, emigration sources said here. He had been suffering from arthritis and tuberculosis of the kidneys.

Bridges blown

Curico, Chile (AFP) - Road and railway bridges were damaged in a pre-dawn explosion near this city, 124 miles south of Santiago. Police discovered tracks published by a leftist group.

No to Nato

Madrid - Most Spaniards object to their country's remaining in Nato and they oppose the continued use of military bases in Spain by the United States, according to a poll conducted by the pro-government daily *El Pais*.

Bodies found

Manila (AP) - Search teams retrieved two more bodies, those of a Malaysian and a Filipino, from the ruins of a resort hotel destroyed by a fire in northern Baguio City. It raised the death toll to 23.

Shell shock

Rennes (AP) - French farmers destroyed 300,000 imported eggs from Britain to protest at falling prices for domestically produced eggs in the Brittany region, farmers' union officials said. The eggs were discovered in 600 crates on a lorry.

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Chernenko's Asia worries prompt fresh offer to solve Sino-Soviet rift

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Jambyn Batmunkh, the new leader of Mongolia, left here at the weekend after talks in which President Chernenko declared the Soviet Union's readiness to keep the door open to China.

At a Kremlin dinner for Mr Batmunkh, Mr Chernenko said that a normalization of Sino-Soviet relations would contribute to improving the situation on the continent of Asia. Moscow would "always keep open the door to constructive talks with China".

The remarks came as Mr Leonid Ilychov, the Kremlin's top negotiator with China and a Deputy Foreign Minister, held a further round of talks in Peking with Mr Wu Xueqian, the Chinese Foreign Minister. The latest round opened on October 18 and gave every appearance of being as fruitless as previous efforts. But there is an improved atmosphere after Mr Wu's lengthy conversations with Mr Andrei Gromyko last month at the United Nations.

The presence of about 25,000 Soviet troops in Mongolia is one of three bones of contention between Moscow and Peking. The others are the occupation of Afghanistan and support for Vietnamese activities in Cambodia. The Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, arrived in Moscow yesterday for talks, hard on the heels of Mr Batmunkh.

Playing down the bitter hostility between the Soviet Union and China for the past 15 years, Mr Chernenko said a Sino-Soviet rapprochement was desirable in view of a common effort by the imperialist powers "to undermine communism in Asia". "Under such conditions, the socialist countries cannot but hold clearer class positions."

Moscow is disturbed by Peking's relationship with the United States and has sharply criticized recent Chinese economic reforms as aimed at pleasing American capitalists.

Mr Batmunkh became Mongolian leader in August when Mr Yumzhagin Tsedenbal retired for health reasons. Mr Chernenko praised Mr Batmunkh as a man of rich experience, but did not mention his previous role in the Soviet Union, suggesting he stepped down because of disagreements with Moscow. Mr Batmunkh was seen off by Mr Crivory Romanov, the Politburo member and leadership contender, who played a prominent role in the talks.

● **SUPREME SOVIET:** Russia's Parliament, the Supreme Soviet, will convene on Tuesday, November 27, Tass announced. It will be preceded by a Central Committee plenum. Both meetings will give the leadership an occasion to signal Moscow's intentions after the

US presidential election, as well as providing a forum for changes in the Kremlin.

A special Central Committee plenum on agriculture was called a week ago, contrary to expectations no personnel changes were made. It is thought that new Politburo members may be appointed, and there could be a shake-up in some sections of the Central Committee secretariat.

The Supreme Soviet, which consists of 1,500 deputies and two parliamentary chambers, meets twice a year. It has largely ceremonial functions and formally considers resolutions put forward by the Politburo and Central Committee, which are passed into law by a unanimous show of hands.

The winter session discusses the budget for the next year and is addressed by Soviet finance and planning ministers. It can also provide a platform for Kremlin leaders, such as Mr Chernenko or Mr Gromyko, to enlarge on domestic and foreign policy, including East-West relations.

Under Soviet law, Supreme Soviet sessions must be announced a month in advance, a convention which was observed - although only just - last winter, when there was behind-the-scenes manoeuvring connected with the decline of President Andropov.

Russians questioned TV man in Afghanistan

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Jacques Abouchar, the French television reporter sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment in Afghanistan after entering the country illegally last month, returned to a heroes' welcome in Paris on Saturday. He looked tired and thin but otherwise well after five weeks in captivity.

M Abouchar, who is 53, was pardoned by President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan on Thursday, the eve of the sixtieth anniversary of the opening of diplomatic relations between France and the Soviet Union.

In a press conference after his arrival, M Abouchar confirmed he had been captured by Soviet, not Afghan, troops and that he had been questioned for 15 hours by Soviet officers before a further 20 hours of questioning by the Afghan authorities.

The Afghans had insisted that he should not reveal that he had been arrested by Soviet troops, he said.

In a message to President Chernenko on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of Franco-Soviet diplomatic relations, President Mitterrand emphasized the importance which France attached to a continuous and open dialogue. But M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, in a radio interview yesterday condemned the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.



Reunited: M Abouchar going shopping with his wife, Françoise, a few hours after his return home.

Nakasone survives late challenge

From David Watts, Tokyo

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone survived unexpectedly bitter attacks on his personal style and policies to win a second term as Prime Minister of Japan last night.

The final weekend of bargaining over Mr Nakasone as the consensus choice of leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) was a series of bitter criticisms not only of Mr Nakasone, but his sponsor, Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister convicted in the \$2m Lockheed bribery scandal.

Mr Nakasone was criticized particularly for his failure to reduce Mr Tanaka's influence in the party as he pledged at the start of his term. The weekend's bargaining put Mr Nakasone on notice that he must mend his ways in this second term.

So deep was the feeling against Mr Nakasone in some quarters and so byzantine are the calculations of Japanese politics that a secret challenge to him by a close aide of his

mentor, Mr Tanaka, was disclosed over the weekend. If successful, it would have prevented his becoming Prime Minister.

It was a former Prime Minister, Mr Takeo Fukuda, one of his toughest critics, who finally broke the impasse, and proposed that Mr Nakasone become party president for a further two years, an office that carries with it that of Prime Minister. But Mr Fukuda called on the other potential contestants who stood aside to allow Mr Nakasone free passage to keep a close eye on him.

Much of the criticism stems from annoyance that Mr Tanaka, who sits as an independent since his conviction, is able to manipulate the party, even though he is no longer a member. There is also a good deal of jealousy and resentment at Mr Nakasone's uncharacteristically outspoken and individualistic style of leadership.

Baby given baboon heart

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

A two-week-old baby girl was in critical condition but holding her own at the weekend after doctors at Loma Linda University Medical Centre gave her the heart of a young baboon.

The recipient, identified as only "Baby Fay," who was born with the left side of her heart not fully formed, received the heart in a five-hour operation. Her undeveloped immune sys-

tem is considered a factor in her favour.

A spokesman for the hospital said: "An infant has an immature immune system, and that means it is less likely to cause rejection of the heart. We have high expectations that she will live a long life with this heart."

This is the first time that a baboon has been used.

China treads warily over price reforms

From Mary Lee, Peking

Price reforms in China will be introduced one step at a time, a state economic commission official said here.

Mr Ge Zuwu, deputy director of the Comprehensive Bureau of the Economy, described it as a very complicated problem which is related directly to the livelihood of the people. "We shall try our best to ensure that there is no price explosion", he said.

Since the party plenum last week endorsed comprehensive reform of the nation's economic structure - extending, in effect, the five-year agricultural reforms to the urban sector - there has been widespread expectation of price rises resulting in panic buying of foodstuffs, woollen clothing and television and radio sets in stores and markets.

Mr Ge said a special committee established under the

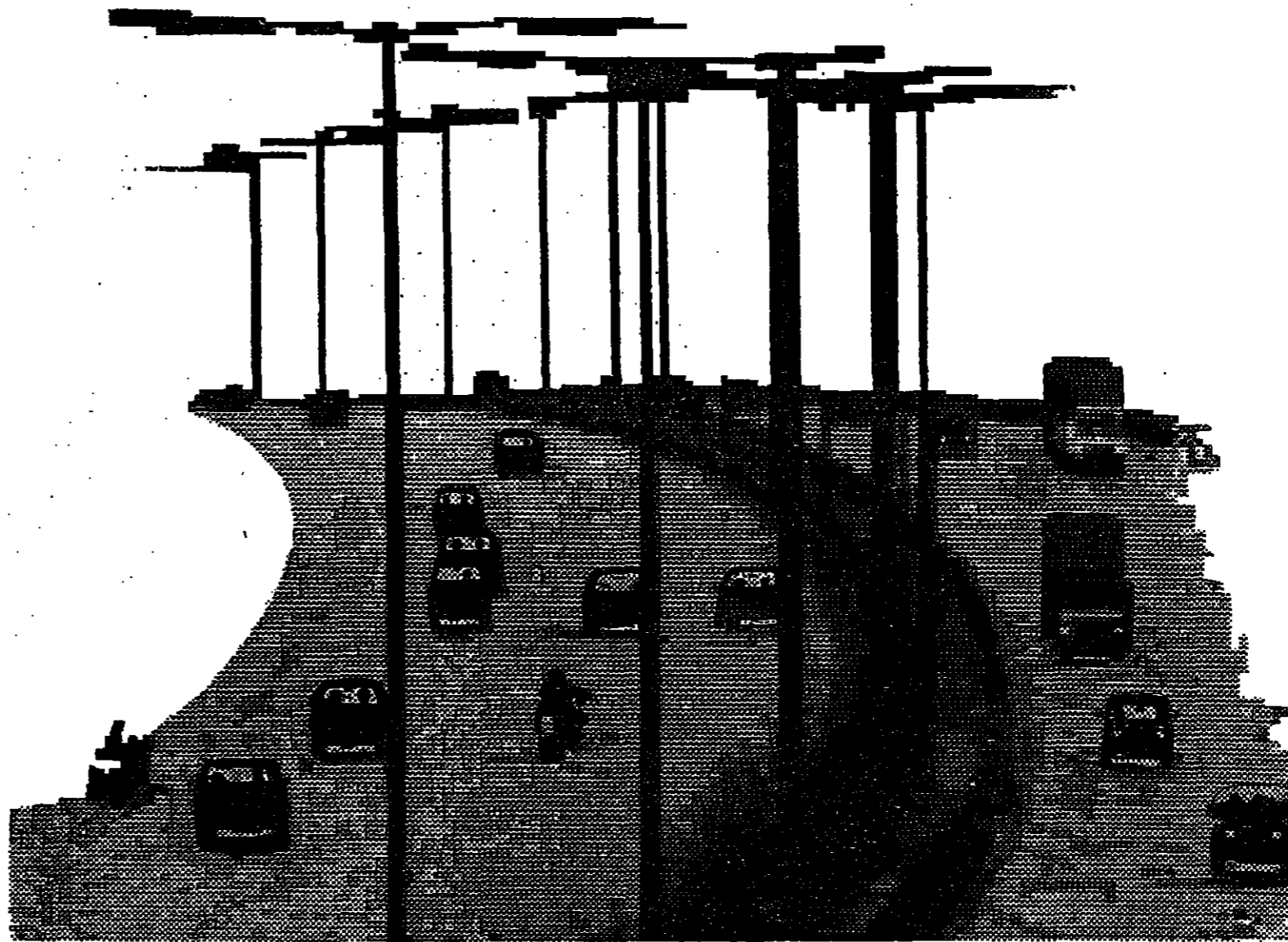
state council will be drafting a price reform programme to be introduced next year. Individuals and enterprises have been promised much greater responsibility in decisions affecting output and sales. Mr Ge emphasized however, that random price rises would not be permitted.

A number of manufactured goods for daily use will enjoy a "floating price" structure or within 20 per cent (higher or lower) of what the state pays.

The first to enjoy this new liberal pricing will be those essential household goods which have always been sold at unrealistically low prices.

Mr Ge said the state will be readjusting prices of mined and other raw materials. Production costs, and supply and demand for the manufactured items will also be factors used in calculation of prices.

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Tamils accuse soldiers of killing youths

Colombo - A Tamil leader yesterday accused Sri Lankan soldiers of shooting dead two youths on a motorcycle and running over their bodies with a lorry at Araly, seven miles from the northern Tamil capital of Jaffna (Donovan Moldrich writes).

Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front, said that after the attack yesterday morning the two bodies were taken to mortuary but later removed.

He alleged that after a similar incident last week, when three youths were shot by the Army at Araly, the bodies were later burnt before they could be identified.

Church bombed after priest's call to arms

Buenos Aires - A bomb blasted the wooden doors off a Roman Catholic church here early on Saturday in an attack apparently linked to a controversial Mass celebrated there last week.

The church gained national notoriety on Wednesday after a service for "victims of subversion" in which Father Julio Trivino called on the congregation, including numerous uniformed military officers, to "take up spiritual and, if necessary, material arms" to defend values threatened by "a corrupt and pornographic democracy".

Witnesses said Saturday's bomb was tossed from a passing car occupied by four men.

European notebook

An Olympic fantasy worthy of a medal

"Let us dream for a moment: it is 1992 at the twenty-fifth Olympic Games. The final of the 1,500 metres has ended and the French competitor has just beaten the Briton at the tape. The Frenchman is going to stand on the highest step of the podium. But the British spectators seem to be rejoicing."

What is happening is that a dream has been conjured for the French edition of the European Commission's magazine, *Euroforum*. It is a dream world in which an EEC Olympic team battles it out against teams from the athletic superpowers.

The magazine points out that such a Euroteam would have headed the medals table at Los Angeles. The EEC, including Spain and Portugal, won 49 gold medals and the United States 83, 52 silver to America's 61, 88 bronze to 30 for the United States, giving a total medal haul of 189 to the EEC and 174 to the United States.

It is a brave attempt to give popular reality to that vision of a people's Europe which was drawn at the Fontainebleau summit by President Mitterrand as he waved a facsimile burgundy-coloured EEC passport.

The article claims that such a Euroteam could be smaller, better and cheaper to run than the present disappointed multi-

national force. Europe should draw its inspiration, it argues, from the British national team. About four months after the end of the summit, the first meeting of the people's Europe committee has yet to be held - although each member state has appointed someone to sit on it.

When the committee does meet, it will have somehow to reconcile the Eurodreams with reality if it is to be worthy of the 18-page prospectus drawn up by the European commission. The Burgundy passport would be a reality but the idea has run into a lot of apathy, particularly when there is increasing concern about the movement of terrorists.

Britain, which maintains a healthy scepticism, is prepared to work hard for any progress towards ending border bureaucracy, which wastes about 7 per cent of the value of community trade. It would back anything, indeed, which generally made a common market work. But British people's Euro-enthusiasm has not reached the level of West Germany, where a special unit inside the Chancellery has been set up to coordinate work.

It stops a long way short of Burgundy passports, common European history books and learning a European anthem. There would probably be little Euro-patriotic cheering either for any Frenchman who pipped a Briton at the 1,500 metre mark.

Ian Murray

THE ARTS

Opera

Sure comic touch makes for beguiling feminine wiles

Le astuzie femminili/
The Kiss
Wexford Festival

After Massenet's *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame*, described on this page on Saturday, Wexford completed its traditional trio of operas with Cimarosa's *Le astuzie femminili* and Smetana's *The Kiss*. "A good, safe Festival repertoire" was the comment attributed to Wexford's artistic director, Elaine Padmore, in one of the Irish papers. But it is highly unlikely that she said it even in Wexford it is difficult to get away with that sort of remark. There has never been anything "safe" about the choice of operas in this town, which consistently treads in areas where others are reluctant to dip even a toe.

Somewhat against the odds *Le astuzie femminili*, the second opera on show, has turned out the success of the Festival. Quite often the middle work is the runt of the litter. There are sound practical reasons for this: rehearsal conditions usually dictate that the central opera must be chorused and most Festival directors like to have their *suoceri* playing on the last night, which means that it has to be third on view. But *Astuzie* (Feminine Wiles) has well and truly broken the mould.

The key to Cimarosa is sharp production. Even *Il matrimonio segreto*, his only opera made of us likely to encounter nowadays, can be tedious if it is not staged with style. Cimarosa writes melodies that are beguiling while they are on the wing but vanish at speed from the mind when they are over. His stage music is all too often as unsustaining as the proverbial Chinese meal and many of the numbers in *Astuzie* (1794) could be swapped between characters without too much upset.

Fortunately Wexford engaged one of our few young producers with a sense of fun and a sure comic touch to make something out of Cimarosa's confection. And confection *Astuzie* certainly is, from the basic ingredi-

ents of opera buffa: an elderly guardian, an elderly suitor, two young lovers, a maid/confidante and, just for a change, a governess. The two old men get the slightly sloppily dressed goods and the lovers end in each other's arms. How else could it be resolved?

Andy Hinds has stirred this all into wild farce by updating the whole thing to the 1920s and the age of *The Boy Friend*. Just why is not quite clear, except that it allows his designer, John McMurray, to create hideously diverting sets in apple green and white, the colour of some venomous pudding created by a berserk chef, and Mr Hinds himself to make a series of sight gags at the expense of every Twenties figure from the Cubist painters to Rudolph Valentino. Even more important is Andy Hinds's ability to get his cast working without inhibition. They have a ball and so do the audience.

The leader of the revels is a pert Swedish soprano called Susanna Rigacci, who pipes out her notes with sure musicianship as Bellina, the young heiress everyone is chasing. She rolls her eyes like a Theda Bara and has a fine sense of comedy - not a great deal of chance to display that in the Bellini repertoire in which she normally specializes. Raul Gimenez has a clear, well-focused tenor - another in the Luis Lima South American line - as Bellina's lover, who despite the Valentino parody behaves as something of a wimp. The two old men are in the exceedingly safe hands of Peter-Christophe Runge and Arturo Testa, as the suitor with a ripe Neapolitan accent, Nancy Herminio is the maid who can also Charleston and Nuala Willis's Governess looks as though she is on the run from *Les Biches*.

György Fischer knows all about the eighteenth-century operatic repertoire and he made Cimarosa's score sound rather better than it probably is.

After the high spirits of *Astuzie*, which could have come from a top-class Footlights smoker, Toby

Robertson's staging of Smetana's *The Kiss* inevitably looked a bit folkloric and middle-aged. But in his defence it must be said that he had virtually nothing to work on: if Cimarosa's libretto is a confection then the one provided to Smetana by Edita Krásmahorská is but a thread, a wisp of a thing that would scarcely sustain a short short story.

The titular kiss is refused by the heroine Vendulka to her betrothed, who in the best Czech tradition goes out and gets drunk. Reconciliation follows swiftly after an encounter with a band of smugglers - what were they smuggling in old Bohemia?

The Kiss is probably the best-known of the three Wexford operas this year and it turns up occasionally in student productions - Mark Elder and David Pountney combined to stage it in their Cambridge days - thanks to Smetana's lush score. The best moments are orchestral, when Smetana gives us his forest murmurs while the smugglers are plying their trade or when dawn breaks over the mountains. Albert Rosen showed his own Czech origins while conducting these, but otherwise was inclined to push the RTE orchestra a bit too hard.

Vendulka has the best of the arias, a caressing lullaby at the end of Act I as she puts the child of Lukas (by a previous marriage) to sleep while he is off at the pub. This was affecting sung by Marie Storch, who has plenty of feel for Central European style. Would that Eduardo Alvarez had the same; he was an unrelentingly loud Lukas and should have noted something of the acoustics of the Theatre Royal on his previous visit here. There were much more accomplished performances from John Ayldon and Roger Howell as Vendulka's relatives and a splendid cameo from Patricia Johnson as the aunt trading with the smugglers - and Miss Johnson, once a renowned Carmen, should know all about smuggling.

John Higgins



Cimarosa meets *The Boy Friend*: Arturo Testa (left) as the suitor from Naples and Susanna Rigacci and Raul Gimenez as the young lovers at Wexford

Don Giovanni
New Theatre, Cardiff

Hold on for a moment while I try to understand this latest production from Welsh National Opera. It is not going to be easy. However, as I see it, the cast have taken themselves off to this piece of the crazy pavement into which the num languidly drops black darts, and then he crawls away until the spaceman stops him with a foot. This is excellently achieved, though one must point out a mistake doubtless caused by a typing error in the copy of the story that was sent to Miss Berghaus. The lady is Elvira, not Evita.

A few adjustments to the costume will take care of this misreading. Otherwise I think I have no complaints. It is good to see Elvira arriving for once on a real conveyor belt in the first act, and here properly dressed as some fantastic mixture of ballroom dancer, shepherdess and cardinal. The episode of her lamenting her phantom dead baby in a snowstorm is also most touchingly done.

Unaccountably the cast seem not to have understood the production's infinite subtlety and discernment. This is a *Don Giovanni* sung without charm or wit: even Nicholas

will remember that point in the second act sextet where the presumed Don Giovanni is discovered to be Leporello. There he is, lying under this piece of the crazy pavement into which the num languidly drops black darts, and then he crawls away until the spaceman stops him with a foot. This is excellently achieved, though one must point out a mistake doubtless caused by a typing error in the copy of the story that was sent to Miss Berghaus. The lady is Elvira, not Evita.

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Folwell's Leporello is delivered for much of the time through clenched teeth, and William Shumell's Don Giovanni compares himself vocally and physically as a man of seething anger, his up-tempo serenade turned into a threat. Both performances are remarkable more for strength of utterance than beauty of tone or line, or sensitivity to others in ensembles.

The same goes for the rest of the cast. Laurence Dale as Don Ottavio cannot disguise the attractiveness of his sound, nor can Elaine Woods as Donna Elvira conceal a voice of secure clarity, brightness and flexibility, but both of them join Anne Evans's stentorian Donna Anna in aiming for vehement self-projection.

There is quite a bit of that too from Sir Charles Mackerras's rough, punchy orchestra (though I like the liquid, gently sensuous accompaniment of the dry recitatives from a square piano). Clearly someone has misinterpreted Miss Berghaus's stupendous inventiveness as a mess of self-indulgence.

Paul Griffiths

Musical

Borrowed innocence

Chess

Barbican Hall

Flotillas of photographers surged down the aisle, while outside the door a journalist was dictating a live report in what sounded like Swedish. And there was one of those standing ovations that are absolutely *de rigueur* on musical first nights - whether as bad as *Peep* or *Y*, or as bizarre as a Tim Rice/Benny Andersson/Björn Ulvæus (late of Abba) opera about an international chess match combining a bewildering range of borrowed musical styles in blissful innocence.

Strictly speaking, this was a concert preview coinciding with the album's release. An impeccable programme synopsis in three languages suggests that, if this show is ever staged, there will be a lot of dialogue. An American and a Russian grand master (unnamed, but we could all then say Bobby and Boris) wage the Cold War in little over the chess table, with Bobby walking out, Boris harassed by his apparition second Molokov and the glamorous Florence, Bobby's second, joining the Russian in a series of tortured duets.

The opening Tyroleans' chorus, straight out of *White Horse Inn*, is clearly a joke but unfortunately the same cannot be said for Boris's patriotic anthem intended to bring the house down with the first-act curtain, or the sub-Albion *adagio* very suitable for an after-dinner musical commercial, for which the ever-busy lighting technicians bathed Anders Eljas and the London Symphony Orchestra in violet.

There is also some sub-Lloyd Webber, a capable operatic quartet (Schumann with a dash of Bach) that I fancy turned up later as a silkily-played orchestral scherzo, and a good deal that Liberace might look at.

Several numbers might, with promotion, be typed into singles but hardly any deserve it, apart from a heartfelt duet, "I Know Him So Well", in which Elaine Paige (Florence) and Karin Glemmestad (Boris's wife) gave everything they had. One inbuilt flaw of the show is that the action is so negative: affairs that come to nothing, chess matches abandoned, Molokov threatening, Bobby snarling.

In fact Bobby is not much of a part, though Murray Head's gravelly presence is dead right. The over-professional Denis Quilley is a pungent Molokov and Tommy Körberg brought lots of passion to Boris's long, dull role. We must now see if all those who bought albums and T-shirts will make Chess enough of a cult show to roll it into the West End.

Anthony Masters

Dance

Timothy Buckley
The Place

I met a man at The Place last week who found Timothy Buckley's programme full of joy, which makes me feel a real wet blanket. It is not that I disliked him and his group, the Troublemakers, just that there seemed little about them to like or dislike.

Like most American participants in the Dance Umbrella season, they come hyped with words like zest and energy, which seems to bear out Leonide Massine's theory about the last four minutes of a ballet. And actually they never put out as much energy as their pianist, Gene Tyranny, whose forceful playing is amplified and superimposed on taped sounds of his own devising, including some incomprehensibly mumbled speech. Fidgety, rather, is the word for the dancing.

The movement consists mainly of marching or jiggling around in country-dance patterns that constantly open and expand. There are many slips and falls, much balancing on the back of the shoulders. In the

excerpts from *Barn Fever* (1983), they wield broomsticks at one point and put on woolly hats at another. The diversions in *How to Swing a Dog* (premiered last month in New York) include waving a rubber pig, bone, fish and snake - but not a dog, taking turns at wearing a sweater with skull and crossbones, putting on dark glasses or garbled false hands.

If you came across people horsing about like this at a party, you would probably watch with mild interest before making an escape to the next room. But is it something to put your coat on and make a journey and pay admission money for? I remember Dr Johnson's words about the meal that was good enough, but "not a dinner to invite a man to".

John Percival

Television

Dancing difference

I never thought dancers were cissies, though envy nudges the elbow of the inept. Peter Schaufuss, Danish director of the London Festival Ballet, a dancer and a child of dancers, in *Proper Job* last night, first of his four BBC2 programmes under the title *Dancers*, is aware of misconceptions and unfurled the flag of masculinity at once.

People often thought male dancers, with whom he is concerned, "effeminate, different". They were different, he said - stronger, fitter than most athletes, training to compete against themselves throughout our whole career. And we never win. He invited doubters to try to lift their girlfriends or wives above their heads without straining, "like a weight-lifter", but smiling. He demonstrated. One imagined an awareness of physical limitation among many male viewers.

Mr Schaufuss then introduced a succession of dazzling male dancers - European, American and Russian - in performances of awesome strength and grace. Interspersed were glimpses of the inexorable training routines at schools in London, Paris and Copenhagen where budding male dancers contest their bodies.

Then there was the formidable Maurice Béjart, choreographer of the physically impossible, to tell us that the most important element in dance was the man. Mr Béjart, whose piercing eyes deflect argument, said that dance had its origins in

the warlike and celebratory activities of the male. No doubt we were all convinced. It is a proper job and watching it should be delightful as well as liberating.

BBC2's other new series, *Our House*, which will investigate six different homes where successive generations have spent their lives, took us to Harrow and Mr and Mrs Bill Johnson. Mr Johnson has lived there all his 56 years. His father bought the three-bedroom semi-detached for £1,100. I understand it might now fetch around £60,000. These facts I elicited after the programme, which was not revelatory.

Mr Johnson, a teacher and now an administrator, and his wife Elsie have no intention of selling. They were happy but defensive, though I surmise they were prompted, about suburbia.

Dennis Hackett

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A Midsummer
Night's Dream

Haymarket, Leicester

Quite a shock to come from the beauty and sensitivity of John Caird's great *Twelfth Night* for the RSC, which I saw the night before, to such a misbegotten mess as this. Its ingredients are sets and costumes in John Byrne's bizarrest vein, the People Show cast as mechanicals, and somewhere in the middle a non-production by Nancy Meckler.

Even before Don Warrington and Soud Fares saunter on with cocktails to play an Athenian wedding, entertainments Emil Wolk and his merry men are ad-libbing noisily in the band corner that will later show their furious offstage post mortems as Bottom and Co. In addition to masking some indifferent speaking, their musical contribution makes some extended numbers from the lovers' verse, mangled to fit - thus intensifying the suggestion of Joe Papp at his most fidgety.

But, though their own comic dialogue can hamper them, they achieve typically brilliant feats of comic conceit: watch Bottom's script slipped from hand to hand before disappearing, and some verbal inspirations like Mark Long's Quince distributing the parts with instructions to con them (namely us, the audience) by tomorrow night.

Looking curiously like the March hare with a toothy grin and a Hurray Henry hoot to match, Mr Wolk manages his asinine translation with vocal subtlety and apparently rubber knees.

Meanwhile Puck has gone round the earth in 40 minutes and a pair of gogglers, Mr Warrington's lambskin voice speaking (as Oberon in silver trousers) has created brief magic and the fairies have come and gone: a nice lot of children in white gowns apparently escaped from their dormitory for a corbantic rave-up. After the lovers' quarrel, directed with maximum effort and minimum effect, one starts to make plans. The set, a brightly painted box pierced by giant cocktail straws and a side-lit circular window wittily suggesting a crescent moon, counts so straight to theatre museum. Ideally, the costumes could be flogged for £200 each in the King's Road and the People Show would pursue their own devices on a separate evening.

First, however, they have to save this one with the finale. And, though almost losing its momentum under the weight of the gags, it climaxes memorably with Pyramus's death, attended by Moonshine with a ketchup bottle that obstinately refuses to produce a drop, after which Thisbe (Jeremy Swift) sets up such a tuneless wailing that the corpse edges away in disgust.

Anthony Masters

Theatre

A masterpiece given its due

The Voysey
Inheritance
Bristol Old Vic

Nearly 40 years after his death, Harley Granville Barker's plays are still seldom produced. Thanks to their heavy cast and scenic demands, he risks being remembered simply as a great Shakespearean critic and director who campaigned for a National Theatre, and an actor who created Shaw leads like Tanner in *Man and Superman*. But rare revivals like the Royal Court's *Voysey Inheritance* of 1966, the RSC's *Marrying of Ann Leete* and the National's magnificent *Madras House* - all written before he was 35 - suggest what was lost when Barker left the English stage because, as he put it, there was none to leave.

First staged in 1905, *The Voysey Inheritance* indicts the Edwardian hante bourgeoisie and hands them the bill. A wealthy, respected old solicitor reveals to his son and partner, Edward, that he has been speculating with clients' trust funds and the fun is six figures in the red. Edward's horror and

shame are as nothing compared with his practical dilemma when the old man dies. At Bristol, Graham Pountney's initial hysteria hardens delightfully into half-comic grigishness as he drops the bombshell (you have been living off fraud and your legacies are frozen) into the family funeral lunch.

One of Barker's skills, typical of his wry sophistication, is that of flickering with satire and irony while tightening the ethical screw. Anthony Cornish's production held the audience in riveted silence only to release them in ripples of understanding laughter. As in *The Madras House*, Barker excels in family portraiture: dear, deaf old Mother (Peggy Ann Wood) placidly engrossed in her needlework, the careworn and taken-for-granted spinster daughter (nice pathetic comedy from Susan Colver) and pompous sons, here brilliantly cast against type, the booming Major, tiresomely overwrought, becomes tolerable and equally convincing in Andrew Hilton's sensitive hands while Malcolm Mudie gives his barometer brother some of the outrageous awesomeness

of Bohun in *You Never Can Tell*.

While Edward debates whether to expose the deficit or labour to retrieve it, they react impotently with fury, jealousy and, in one last fatal instance, blackmail to defend their rights. And Barker explicitly questions those rights, adding that the confidence which makes the business world go round is often not that different from the Voyseys' confidence trick.

That barely scratches the surface of this superbly provocative play. Mr Cornish casts it proud, down to such awkward roles as Old Voysey, masterfully played by Peter Copley, and the sparkling, sane Holly Wilson as Edward's potentially smug fiancée, John Elvery, whose work is too seldom seen in London, contributes two typically evocative plush-and-pandering interiors that peel out significantly at their furthest edges. Bristol Old Vic has long been associated with distinguished productions of classic masterpieces; this is exactly that.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Bochmann Quartet/
Canter
Wigmore Hall

Barry Guy's new work for solo oboist, *Circular*, shamelessly exists only for the purpose of glorifying the instrument and the performer. But, though it makes no pretence at bearing any profound messages, its bewildering technical difficulty has by itself created an arresting dramatic conflict between intention and realization of the sort often found in the music of Xenakis or Ferneyhough.

Few exponents could have negotiated it with the kind of panache, even relish, shown by Robin Canter in its world premiere on Friday. For one thing, even without the plethora of multi-phonics and other special effects that Guy employs, his furious *moto perpetuo* style would have defeated many. Canter is also fortunate in his command of the so-called "circular" technique of breathing (the device that presumably inspired the work's name), so that he was able to play for long periods without appearing to pause for air. This was especially effective in those sections where Guy

requires his soloist to produce "difference tones" by playing near-coincident pitches on two oboes simultaneously.

The sheer thrill of all this dominated a concert which otherwise included some British pre-war chamber music and Ravel's String Quartet besides. The Bochmann Quartet played the Ravel with a warm assurance where perhaps a slightly more strident sound would have served the sometimes murky counterpoint better, and Britten's *Pearl and the Boy* of 1932 sounded equally cosy. This is in any event a midweek work that cleverly returns to whence it came (a gently oscillating minor third) but that meanwhile visits nowhere very exciting.

It was like an oasis however among the other three works. Bax's Oboe Quintet of 1922 was the most assured and, I suppose, the most interesting of them. But the two Interludes from Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda*, transcribed for oboe and string quartet a few years back by Eric Fenby, are really as dull as ditchwater, and Holst's admittedly early *Three Fantasy Pieces* for the same combination are scarcely better.

Stephen Pettitt

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Parasite Structures
ICA

This Rational Theatre show combines sound and light, dance, gymnastic display and speech in theatricalizing the work of the sculptor Denis Masi, artist-in-residence at the Imperial War Museum, which is soon to be exhibited separately in the ICA's Upper Galleries. I take the handout's word for it (reinforced by the picture of caged human and animal heads) that Mr Masi's chosen theme is power, but I would never have decoded that theme from the performance.

Set in a white box equipped with weight-lifting apparatus and a television monitor, it opens with a series of personal confessions from the company of six, who then change into gymn kit for a series of exercises whose main effect is to leave them fagged out on the floor. A pair of side-screens flashing up enigmatic orders invite us to see them as human laboratory specimens, manipulated by some unseen authority.

Otherwise the spectacle offers nothing more sinister than a cheerful little group, with bags of

pep, meeting for a weekly keep-fit class.

Of course, that may be the point. Perhaps the fact that they are unaware of being manipulated is intended to make your flesh creep. Perhaps the eagerness with which they real off their confessions demonstrates supine complicity with their interrogator. But it strikes me as fatally indecisive to leave all such possibilities to the spectator's speculative reveries.

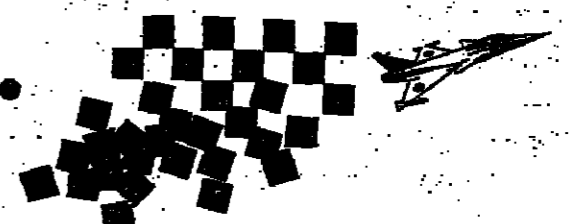
The stage picture has the heightened definition of a perfectly recalled dream. Andy Wilson's company show an impressive range of skills from formal dance to animal pantomime, and some passages, such as the appearance of a lone body-builder working away at the auto tempo in the midst of the frenetically drilling group, do make memorable statements in strictly visual terms.

Other visual items, such as projected photographic montages and the background figure of a seated technician, have no evident relevance to the company's routines. Nor, alas, do the words, which evoke suspicions of the Emperor's New Clothes.

Irving Wardle

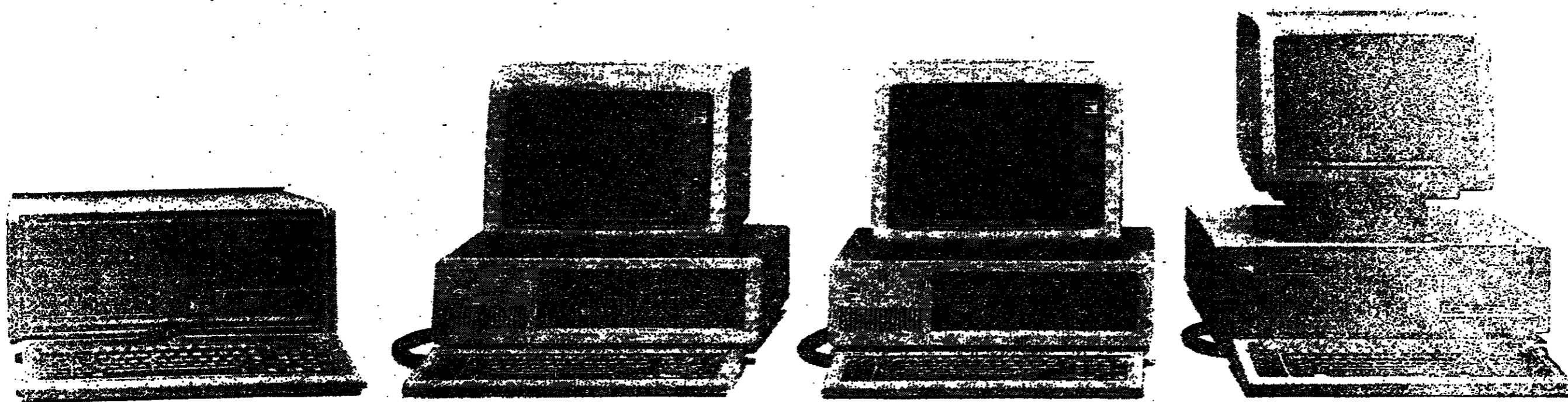
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SPECTRUM

VANISHING SKILLS

Part 1: Cricket

This country's international record in rugby, football and cricket has been in decline for years. David Miller, chief sports writer, analyses the causes and finds some hope

Is the game up for us?

"If imaginative sport is demanded, with the exponents free to give full play to their natural gifts, the right atmosphere of inducements will be produced. . . . If the rewards of competition are the main desire, victories in rubbers and county championships, then cricket will respond to materialistic stimuli and incitement."

Those words were written by Neville Cardus in 1955 when reflecting upon what he regarded as the greatest of all England teams, in 1902, of MacLaren, Fry, Ranjitsinhji, Jackson, Tyldesley, Lilley, Hirst, Jessop, Braund, Lockwood and Rhodes. Since 1946, he claimed, decadence had set in: specialism, at that time, was damaging to the balance of the game. "It is possible to watch batsmen all day and not see a cut or full-shouldered drive," he observed. "What would that dozen of scribes have said 30 years later, when head-high bowling - thuggery, according to my colleague John Woodcock, the editor of *Wisden* - is predominant, the corruption of technique and style by the one-day game has become epidemic, and England lose 5-0 at home to the West Indies?"

David Gower and his tour party leave tomorrow for India, without Ian Botham, hoping to expurgate recollections of the last two singularly unsuccessful winter tours, while at home Webster's Brewery is sponsoring the search for latter-day Treumans, Stathams and Truons. The English public is somewhat agitated at the severity

of the summer's defeat. Peter May, the chairman of the selectors who captained England 41 times over six years, acknowledges that people react emotionally to sporting results, and following the euphoria of unexpected success against Australia in 1981, "they are now at an all time low." One of the elder statesmen of the game considers the standard has never sunk so far. Yet to what extent are the players more the victims than the creators of contemporary circumstances?

Sport reflects the age in which we live. If life is selfish, violent and expedient, so will cricket tend to be. Could Spooner and Woolley have battled with such Edwardian grace in the maelstrom of today's commercial frenzy? Or Compton with such cavalier abandon? That exceptional football manager Milja-

"We haven't got great players. . . only a few of Test standard"

Doug Insole

nic of Yugoslavia has described contemporary England soccer as "industrial", and the same is true of too much cricket. These are desperate times when county players, reduced to automatons by the seven-day week, are praying for rain before the match has started rather than when 60 for five in the follow-on. If we cavil at the quality of some of the leading



David Gower: Talent, but what about technique?

players, we should condemn the kind of game generated by our environment: impatient spectators wanting instant everything, impecunious counties confronted by too many alternative attractions and obliged to sell out to excusably voracious sponsors, an International Cricket Conference playing dial-around the calendar, an intensely intrusive press.

Criticisms of Test standards concern roughly five factors: technique, selection/captaincy/management, competitive pressures allied to finance, alterations to the structure of the game, and discipline. What has been apparent when talking to some of the most authoritative and experienced of cricketers is the variation of opinion on why technique is inferior or whether a team manager is desirable.

It is widely acknowledged, for example, that two of the foremost batsmen, Gower, whose visual appeal has been compared to Woolley, and Gatting, are suspect in certain

situations: the line of Gower's back foot leading him into problems and Gatting's front foot too frequently having him leg-before. Excellent though they are, the argument goes, they are not prepared to work sufficiently at improving technique. "Techniques are all too cock", says the garrulous Brian Close, former Yorkshire, Somerset and England captain and later selector. "Middle-order batsmen are not in charge of their own destiny. One-day cricket dictates to the players, but in county and Test cricket the players should dictate. Today's players have forgotten the adage that 'you have to go back to go forward, and to go forward to go back'."

"Because they're all going forward, the bowlers pitch short. If you keep going forward, you don't know where your off stump is. Players come into the game with talent, not technique. Who now forms their technique? There are few older players left who under-

"Players come into the game with talent, not technique. Who now forms their technique? There are few older players left who understand. Coaching is for the brain, not the physique."

Brian Close

"The professional captain is imperceptibly reluctant to instruct another Test-calibre professional, yet they have to direct their bowlers, sometimes."

Mike Brearley

stand. Coaching is for the brain, not the physique."

The classical May regularly consulted Surrey's former Test opener and coach Andy Sandham. "The basics don't change", he says, "but contemporary players too infrequently ask". G. O. Allen, captain in 1936 and a fast bowler of peerless action who disapproved of Jardine's bodyline theory when a member of the 1933 tour, agrees that one-day cricket has created bad habits outside the off stump and encouraged too optimistic front-foot batsmen. "Back-foot players like Bradman, and Clive Lloyd today, don't get hit."

Doug Insole, vice-captain in South Africa in 1956, tour manager in 1978-79 and chairman of the cricket committee of the Test and County Cricket Board, diplomatically has a foot in both camps, for and against the players. "We haven't got great players who are capable of playing in any cricket", he says. "There are only three or four players of Test standard, and players today don't have the pleasure of staying there four or five hours and hitting only the bad balls. There is not the same

pride in correctitude and classical style. A lot of the main scorers are those who club it, like Gooch and Botham. On the other hand, the rate of runs per hundred balls is higher (than 30 years ago), there are more centuries, and the overall standard in county cricket is higher: there are no pushovers."

Peter Roebuck of Somerset, articulate and literate and with a first in Law from Cambridge, has assiduously tailored himself to the modern game. As a non-Test player yet eighteenth in the batting averages he has no vested interests. Relentless competitive pressure, he believes, is the mitigating factor for batsmen's limitations.

"Golfers can work at their game, but cricketers can't", he says. "You can't assume that technique lasts forever. McEnroe or Nicklaus regularly revert to practice: we play matches, this encourages batsmen to concentrate on being aggressive, or touch players, rather than mastering technique. People come into the game with the same background (as before), but are forced to try to score off good bowlers. Short bowling eliminates classical driving. It's 'edge-behind' cricket. We get out through frustration."

Starting with the Gillette Cup in the 1960s, the importing of foreign players has restricted the development of home players, though this has been reduced since 1981 to one player per county.

Yet could more be achieved with the material available by better selection, captaincy, or the appointment of a full-time team manager? Peter May reasons that the loss of 15 players under the three-year ban for South African involvement has been unavoidably inhibiting, but that the inclusion of Gooch and others would not

have made a significant difference against the West Indies.

Ted Dexter, debonair stylist of 66 Tests and captain against five countries, thinks that Insole should call for an enquiry into the whole framework of Test team administration: he argues that West Indies, New Zealand, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have concentrated positively on improvement, while England, for so long more experienced than all but Australia, make do and mend.

He believes that selection, coaching, training, back-up, finance, captaincy and personal character should be analysed; that an elite squad of 30 players, vetted for technical soundness, should be established, rather than a selection policy of hit and miss; and a team manager should be appointed to work with the captain and replace the selectors, Roebuck agrees. "A sense of unity in strategy and policy is needed. The selectors at present are unaccountable."

Why should England select two spinners for the first Test against West Indies, and bat first? Gubby Allen considers appointing a team manager might work - "with the right sort of person. Ken Barrington, had he lived, could have given a lot of moderate batsmen considerable help."

May and Insole, broadly questioning the usefulness of a team manager, believing that only the captain can be in touch with all the shifts in emphasis hour by hour, that county managers such as Ray Illingworth have had only limited success. Furthermore, May doubts how much you can try to coach an established batsman who has scored thousands of runs. Yet the situation where England have no more than a quick pre-Test net on a Wednesday, and Botham can

think it fun to whack balls through a couple of windows, is symptomatic of haphazard preparation.

Have England been inadequately led by Botham, Willis and Gower, following the departure of the extrovert Greg, under a cloud, and the retirement of the intuitive Brearley? Have not both bowlers-and-batsmen been insufficiently tactically disciplined? Roebuck wonders whether the old-style amateur captain is needed, unconfined by professional attitudes. "The pro-

"A sense of unity in strategy and policy is what is needed"

Peter Roebuck

fessional captain is imperceptibly reluctant to instruct another test-calibre professional", he thinks. Brearley doubts the effectiveness of team managers, but thinks few captains have a natural aptitude for ideas, "yet they have to be in charge, to direct their bowlers, sometimes. Fairly basic things (against West Indies) haven't been observed, though no side selected could have beaten them. But your bowlers must not be allowed to begin to feel impatient."

Brian Close is characteristically sharp. "There are no captains today. Money overrides the game. Top players are given the captain's job, but have to give all their efforts to their own game to keep in the money". Allen drily observes that the discipline of players on and off the field is not as good as it used to be, "which leads to lack of concentration". Yet in defence of the players, Insole says that he found a minimal difference in attitudes over 30 years between being player and tour manager - and that there is now less drinking. Roebuck points out that the "huge improvement in fielding standards is not commensurate with alleged lack of fitness, that staleness and mental fatigue are more relevant."

Where, then, does the definitive answer lie? Maybe there is none. England has no right to supremacy when others are improving, as in other sports. Are the players overpaid, uncaring and slipshod, or simply over-burdened? Would technique return if the suggested four-day, 16-match county programme was introduced? Or if limited-over crowd-pleasers were abolished, together with bouncers? Cricket is no more a protected species than the music-hall, and it is probably too big and democratic to arrest, by simple measures, its own malaise of commercial expediency.

Yet it cannot be without hope of retaining Cardus's "openness of those hours on the summer field" when Roebuck can thus reflect upon a season: "We won a cup final at Lord's, but I look back with more affection upon our time during the World Cup when we were a weak (depleted) young team doing its best. If I learnt anything, it is that the pleasure of professional sport lies not in winning trophies but in playing in a team which is giving itself heart and soul to its work." Cardus would have approved, though perhaps not of that, to him, inappropriate final word.

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Now let's hear it for Nafplion

moreover . . . Miles Kingdon

I would like to say thank you to a woman I met a month ago at the Pembroke Road branch of Kensington Library. As I was preparing to remove a pile of books on Greece she leant over and said: "If you're going to Greece, you don't need any of those. All you need to do is head for Nafplion and make it your base. It's a smashing town and there aren't many tourists there. It's full of bubbles."

Thus, through my anonymous informant, did I acquire the double knowledge that "bubble and squeak" is Cockney slang for Greek and that Nafplion is a fine centre for one's first visit to the Peloponnese. Not only is it within reach of Argos, Mycenae, Epidaurus and all the other sites, but it is - unlike most places described as tourist centres - a fine town in its own right. It has one startling advantage over Athens and indeed over any other Greek town I saw: it looks as if it has a real history.

Athens, for instance, looks as if the builders left at about the time Christianity arrived, promising to get back as soon as possible and not making it for another 1,500 years, in the 1830s. There is virtually nothing between the last of the temples and the first of the Victorian mansions. Other towns which might have had more to show than Athens were destroyed in the War of Independence (the war which made Lord Byron the most loved Englishman in Greece and Lord Elgin the most hated) - only Nafplion, by some miracle, avoided being razed to the ground, and when Greece's first king was imported from Bavaria it was here that he set up his capital while Athens was being refurbished.

The Venetians, alternated

ownership of the place with the Turks for hundreds of years and to this very day the main square is dominated at one end by the old Venetian garrison building, now the museum, and at the other end by the old Turkish mosque, now a cinema.

The middle of the square is dominated by children learning to ride bicycles, because for once the Greeks have sat on their love of cars and made it pedestrian only. But the town is overshadowed by a huge hill on which sits a huge castle - really three castles in one perimeter wall - called the Palamidi.

This was built by the Venetians up to 1714 in one last great attempt to preserve their empire. Unfortunately the Turks marched in in 1715, the year after completion, leaving the poor people of Venice feeling like an art gallery that has had all its Rembrandts swiped the week after the burglar alarms were fitted. But the Palamidi, reached by 857 sandal-riding steps, is still pretty inside, a dizzying complex of ramps and staircases as fiddly as an Escher drawing. One can imagine the jostling between the Venetian commander and the architect . . .

"Look here, dammit, the castle is full of sloping ramps. How the devil do you expect my men to run up and down without falling over, eh?"

"They're not meant for running up and down. They're interlocking inclined planes. I don't want your soldiers' nasty boots on my nice shiny ramps."

"Well, get some staircases put in or you don't get a Venetian penny, my man."

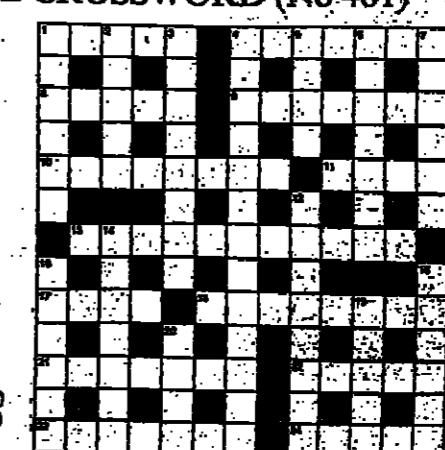
The result is as pretty a castle courtyard as I've ever seen, crammed with nooks and crannies and the odd fig tree. But the Palamidi, well preserved as it is, is not high on the list of Greek things to see.

In fact, I suspect this is because it is well preserved. There seems to be a paradoxical feeling in Greece that if a thing is in a good state of preservation it is not worth seeing as something which has almost entirely vanished. Greece boasts a wonderful series of medieval Frankish fortresses - there is a fine hill-top example frowning down on the town of Argos - which are simply not mentioned in guide books, except classical remain, even if it looks like a marble spare part yard, is given endless lip service.

Magic, as they say. Yet I could not find a single Greek who could understand what I saw in the place.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 481)

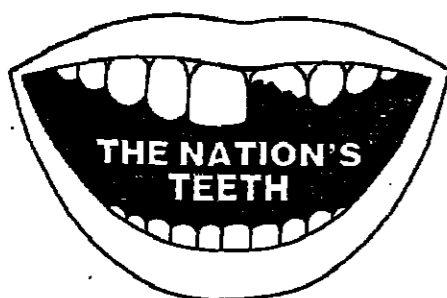
- ACROSS
1 Backless sofa (5)
4 Innocent girl (7)
5 Dutch flower (5)
9 Inconsistent (7)
10 Make easier (8)
11 Firm hold (4)
13 Beyond reach (11)
17 Weighty book (4)
18 People's govt advocate (8)
21 Cookie (7)
22 Enrage (5)
23 Rapure
24 Eighth letter (5)
DOWN
1 Lambie (6)
2 Veil (5)
3 French emperor (8)
4 Incompetently (13)
5 Inter-account cheque (4)
6 Unaffected (7)
7 Bar (6)
12 Wide view (8)
14 Vengeance goddess (7)
15 Lapping (8)
16 Sifted material (6)
19 Correct (5)
20 Bait bread (4)



Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

MONDAY PAGE

A service falling into decay



Part 1: Teresa Skelly explains how a series of improvements in diet and health care have created a crisis in Britain's dental

profession. Patients, she says, are suffering because training methods are outdated and the payments system encourages dentists to opt for treatment rather than prevention, costing the public millions

Last year 33 million teeth were filled, six million extracted, two million sets of dentures fitted by general dental practitioners in Britain. In all 35 million courses of treatment were carried out on the National Health Service. It cost around £680m - that's more than we spend on coronary disease or cancer and about the same as the amount spent in one year on Trident. But it is still only a fraction of the £15,501m total cost of the health service in 1983.

Dental treatment is cheaper in Britain than almost anywhere else in the West. Teeth are healthier now than at any time since the launch of the health service in 1948.

In the last decade alone the proportion of five-year-olds with some 'known decay' has fallen from 71 to 43 per cent. Adults can now expect to keep at least some of their natural teeth until they are 60.

Upon a brief examination it would appear that there is very little wrong with the dental service today. It operates smoothly and efficiently, it provides necessary treatment on demand for the entire population of Britain and at a cost which isn't enough to warrant close scrutiny by the Treasury.

But a more detailed investigation reveals a crisis so great and so far reaching in its implications for the dental profession that it cannot afford to be ignored in 1984.

"Already we have far too many dentists chasing too little work and consequently some of them are carrying out unnecessary work in order to maintain their income from the NHS," said one academic in London.

To understand why you need to go back to the early years of the National Health Service. They were halcyon days for dentists. Dental disease was rampant and their earnings soared as they worked long hours to fulfill the promise of free dentistry for all made somewhat rashly by Aneurin Bevan in 1948. In the first year alone many dentists had earned £4,000 - twice the earnings of most GPs.

Faced with this colossal workload they began to become more efficient, employing better management techniques and more receptionists and surgery assistants. In the mid-fifties the arrival of the high speed drill revolutionized dentistry. Better forms of pain control arrived in the sixties. By the seventies they were completely geared up to treat the levels of disease they had discovered in 1948.

And there were more of them. Following early fears about too few dentists there had been a massive expansion of the dental schools in the sixties. But then in the mid-seventies something happened which was to be the root cause of the crisis now facing the dental profession.

Decay rates began to fall throughout western Europe. A national survey into children's teeth was hurriedly carried out in Britain. Against the background of several minor surveys its findings tended to confirm the fall in decay noticed in Europe and, by now, the United States.

Improvements were noticed in all ages, socio-economic groups and areas - although the most dramatic were in London and the South east.

Since this was also the area where there has traditionally been a higher concentration of dentists the profession was, and still is, eager to applaud its own clinical ability. It was hailed as a triumph for restorative dentistry - a philosophy which encourages doing fillings and

replacing old fillings at the most hint of decay.

But that did little to explain why children who had never even had any dental treatment were also experiencing less decay.

There had to be another explanation. Epidemiologists may argue but two factors, quite unrelated to dentists' restorative skills, have emerged - one is fluoride in the water supply and the other is changes in the amount and type of sugar we consume.

Fluoride was first identified as a substance which curbed tooth decay - by helping the enamel of the tooth to remineralize - in the thirties. Research into why people in Colorado, USA, had less tooth decay revealed that it was due to the fluoride which occurred naturally in the water supply from the Colorado springs. In 1945 it was added artificially to the water supply of Grand Rapids, Michigan. It also began to be added to toothpaste in the seventies.

Although successive governments have been reluctant to compel local authorities to add fluoride to the water supply, it has proved to be a successful agent against tooth decay in those areas which have - including Newcastle, Leeds, Durham, Scunthorpe, Kilmarnock and the West Midlands.

In the West Midlands alone dental decay has been halved since fluoride was added to the water supply in 1964. Sugar, too, has been linked with decay since at least the thirties. Indeed, scientists have discovered that in the days before sugar was a part of our normal diet there was little, if any, decay. It began to appear in the sixteenth century when sugar began to become available, but only to the affluent. An early victim was Queen Elizabeth I.

Apart from falling decay it has also been widely accepted that periodontal disease, a gradual shrinkage of the gums caused by a build up of bacterial plaque and suffered mainly by adults, is largely preventable. Combined with a gradual loss of

The rest - around 16,000, are the local dentists, who make up the General Dental Service of the NHS. It is for them that the fall in dental disease poses the greatest problems because, while prevention clearly pays in terms of dental health, it doesn't pay the dentist working in the NHS.

Indeed, the "Fee for Item" system under which they are paid seems to conspire against dentists practising prevention in the NHS.

Unlike doctors who, broadly speaking, earn the bulk of their income according to how many patients are registered with them, dentists are paid solely according to what they do. So for each filling, scaling and crown fitted, the dentist submits a claim for reimbursement to the Dental Estimates Board. For each job a fee is set. For example, a small, single surface filling is worth £3.30, a large filling, £7.50.

These fees are fixed annually by the Dental Rates Study Group whose job it is to devise a scale of fees which will enable the average dentist with an average pattern of work to earn the target income recommended each year by the Doctors and Dentists Reviews Group.

It is now £46,533. Allowing for average practice expenses this should leave a target net income of £19,100, compared with estimated average incomes for doctors of £23,000. To achieve this the average dentist will have to earn about £25 an hour, five days a week, 52 weeks a year. To cover time spent on holidays, most dentists will try to push their hourly earnings higher, up to at least £35.

Since they earn nothing for talking to patients and teaching them how to prevent decay or gum disease they are compelled, financially, to stick to active treatment. "Not only that, it's what they've been trained to do," said one young practitioner in the East Midlands.

"Despite the fall in disease the curriculum for dental students is still heavily biased towards restorative treatment. It



DRILLINGS AND FILLINGS

Both children and adults are suffering less dental disease than 10 years ago.

In 1973, the average age when a child had one completely decayed tooth was only 10. By 1983 it was at least 15. In 1973, the average when children had at least

one tooth filled was eight. A decade later it had risen to 10. By the age of 15 the average child in 1973 had had six fillings. It had fallen to four by 1983.

A national survey in 1978 showed that 29 per cent of adults had lost all their natural teeth, compared with

37 per cent in 1968. The biggest change was in the 35-44 age group where only 12 per cent had lost their teeth, compared with 22 per cent in 1968.

The average age at which people could be still expected to have some of their natural teeth had risen from 50 to 55.

to the dentist. Women are far more diligent about going regularly to the dentist, but in 1978 it was revealed that they still lose their teeth, on average, by 53 whereas men keep theirs until 57.

Against this background of outdated training and a system of payment which encourages repeated fillings rather than prevention, it is fair to ask whether, both as patients and taxpayers, people are getting a fair deal out of the dental service in Britain.

According to several surveys carried out by Dr Richard Elderton in Dundee, the answer is a resounding "No". He concluded that general practitioners were far more

the system of payment for GPs. After much debate and as a result of the 1981 DHSS report, *Towards Better Dental Health*, a capitation pilot study on children was launched this month.

Taking part are roughly 60 volunteer dentists in 20 practices in five areas of Britain - Redbridge and Waltham Forest, Gloucestershire, Manchester, Glasgow and South Glamorgan. They will be paid between £8.16 and £16.92 a year per child, depending on the ages up to 15.

If after a year the signs are encouraging, the scheme will be expanded for a two-year experiment to be assessed in 1987.

It has been cautiously welcomed by the British Dental Association. This is the body set up originally to negotiate dentists' fees with the DHSS.

Ironically it was the BDA who warned of hurried and shoddy work under the "Fee for Item" system when it was proposed by the Labour Government in 1948. Nowadays, it appears, the system is less opposed by the BDA.

There is also a reluctance to accept lower sugar consumption as a major reason for the fall in decay. Only now is a working group on sugar being set up by the BDA.

Allegations of abuse and widespread overprescribing have brought a strong reaction from the professional establishment. Dentists who speak out face the threat of censure for bringing the profession into disrepute - a possible breach of the rules of the Regional Dental Council.

In the wake of growing public disquiet all the BDA can do is pass the buck to the DHSS. In a letter written in June to Health Minister Kenneth Clarke it called for an immediate tightening up of the system for monitoring work done and claims submitted to the Dental Estimates Board, despite the fact that the Government is unlikely to increase the number of dental officers who carry out random checks on dentists.

Meanwhile the Labour Party is worried about the level of patients' charges and also the unequal distribution of dentists in Britain. It can vary between an average of 3,000 patients to one dentist in the South, up to 8,000 in deprived areas like Tyneside.

Undoubtedly compulsory fluoridation of water supplies would help dental health, but it could do nothing to help the dental service and the dental profession out of today's crisis - brought about by years of self-protection on the part of the profession and an appalling apathy and lack of foresight and funding by successive governments.

On Wednesday

How unethical dentists cheat the taxman

'Women are far more diligent about going to the dentist. But they often lose their teeth before men'



Medieval dentistry: When it really was torture



Queen Elizabeth I: Early victim of sugar decay

the supporting bone which occurs naturally in adult life, the teeth become loose and eventually fall out.

So, dental disease has fallen dramatically since 1948. Yet, due to the expansion of the dental schools in the sixties, we have a record number of dentists - at the last count there were 23,800 on the register held by the General Dental Council.

Of those, up to 4,000 are thought to have retired or left the country. 500 are dentists working exclusively privately. 2,000 are salaried dentists in the Community Dental Service. 1,000 work in the Hospital Dental Service, about 600 are academics working in dental schools and about 400 work in the armed forces.

might have been appropriate for 1948, but now the dental schools are turning out dentists who are poorly equipped to effectively treat the changing pattern of disease confronting them in 1984.

One leading critic of the restorative philosophy of dentistry, an academic in London, said: "Admittedly disease is on the decrease but it has nothing whatever to do with dentists. We have reached the stage where we must ask ourselves what we are achieving by constantly replacing fillings just in case there is decay."

"Research has shown that regular attenders of the dentist only keep their teeth, on average, for about five years longer than those who rarely go

likely to go ahead with fillings than their colleagues in the salaried Community Dental Service. If this tendency to fill when in doubt could have been prevented it would, he argued, have saved 59 per cent of the £226m spent on fillings in the general dental service in 1980.

If you accept, as the critics of the dental service suggest, that prevention is better than repeated fillings and that the present system of payment not only actively discourages dentists from practising prevention but also encourages restorative over prescribing then the logical answer appears to be capitation. This system would pay dentists a flat-rate wage, regardless of what they do, and bring the profession in line with

A suitable case for treatment

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health, points to the capitation study as evidence that the Government is finding out whether it will provide a better standard of dental care. He is conscious there are too many dentists and points to the 10 per cent cut in dental students intake implemented last year. Mr Clarke said: "The Government is concerned to cut abuse but we have to ask ourselves whether the amount we spend in deterring abusers is not more than the abuse actually costs". A Green Paper will be published before Christmas, and Mr Clarke added: "We are considering bringing forward the replacement of the computer at the Dental Estimates Board."

This will be welcome news to the BDA, which regards the computer as outdated and the information it supplies, regarding patterns of treatment, as obsolete.



1984 and 1948: Kenneth Clarke, Aneurin Bevan

PENNY PERRICK

These young fogies are charming rebels

Hitting my teenage stride in the early 1960s, the last place I wanted to go was Oxford. Did that city of dreaming spires have a Vidal Sassoon, a King's Road, a Saddle Room? No, it certainly did not; so I eschewed the Oxford entrance exam and sat the *Vogue* talent contest instead.

Oxford caught up with me a few years later when I married one of its stars, a publishing prodigy who, during his time at New College, had bought the student newspaper and licked it into profitable shape. By the time he began to take me back to the scene of his triumphs the Sixties had progressed a bit, and undernourished, the spires wandered equally dreamy children with smug, spoon-shaped faces oblivious of their educational advantage.

The man who, at the time, was steward of the Oxford Union, did not take to the current intake. "Things have changed, sir," he mourned softly to my husband, "since you and Mr Heseltine were here."

Mr Heseltine had been a favourite, for he had whitewashed the Union's cellars and organized dances in them. After his departure, Oxford's flower-children used this choice bit of early-Tarzan interior design to drift around discussing the personal being political and similar devilish concepts while the Union's president, far from being an aspiring Tory politician, was a serene-looking gentleman called Tariq Ali.

In other words, Oxford students had begun to resemble people of their own age everywhere else instead of giving plausible imitations of their own fathers during their time at Oxford. And I, too late in the day, realized that there was more to an Oxford education than silly young men in brocade waistcoats getting drunk and soppy young women getting locked out of their colleges and having to giggle their way over the wall.

The steward who regretted the end of the Heseltine era, has

long been retired. It is probably just as well as there is much in today's Oxford that would make him miserable. He would, I think, be ill at ease at the recruitment stand for a society called Gay Soc. He would regret the sprouting of mixed-sex colleges and with them the declining need for rules to keep the sexes asunder.

Today's rules are very prosaic: students are not allowed to keep sandwich-toasters in their rooms since some college residents, instead of producing cheese butties, used the toasters to dry their underwear, causing fumes to be blown into the corridors.

But with the flower-children's children, including mine, who are both at Oxford this year, the retired steward would feel at home. The current intake does not drift around the honey-coloured city with a vacant expression on its unlined face. It is sharp and eager with a hard-edged energy. Into the quads the students come and go, talking of merchant banking and becoming a politico. The Conservative societies are flourishing, touting the distant past in true Oxford fashion with "We love Winnie" badges.

Yet these young fogies are not the mixture as before. Their rebellion against laid-back parents is subtle: they refuse to follow them into Sixties-approved careers such as designing record sleeves or directing animated cartoons, and hint darkly that they may become chartered accountants. But they are full of charm and wit and sunshine manners, as befits a generation brought up by mothers and fathers who wore fringed jackets and long dresses and took guitar lessons.

The coachloads of middle-aged tourists, decamped from their coaches in front of Trinity, train their cameras on the students, disappointed to find them dressed in Benetton rather than Brideshead. But as they listen to the rattle of the leaves swept along The Turl, watch the sun turn the stone yellow, gold and pink, they just think, with wistful envy, that Oxford is wasted on the young.

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THE TIMES DIARY

The case of Dr Patel

The career of the new director of the London School of Economics, Dr I. G. Patel, has not been without its travails. In 1976, when he was deputy administrator of the United Nations Development Programme in New York, his former Filipino domestic servant, Natividad Diza, joined her sister Perla in filing a \$6m suit against him and others who, they claimed, had "imported or employed persons below minimum wages and under conditions of involuntary servitude". The sisters said they were forced to work for up to 14 hours a day, seven days a week, and were forbidden to leave the premises except on business. A Manhattan judge dismissed the case "for failure to state a legally cognizable claim," although he did say he was "not unmoved by the sisters' plight." By then Dr Patel, who had throughout strenuously denied the charges, but had understandably claimed diplomatic immunity, had returned to India. Yesterday Dr Patel said: "We looked after her every need and she went back happy." An LSE spokesman said the selection committee had been aware of the case.

Red rag

Sir James Goldsmith, incensed by fines that after three years his £50,000 prize for exposure of Soviet infiltration of the western media is still unawarded, tells me he is determined to find a worthy recipient next year. Journalists in search of easy loot should not call him: he will call them. The presentation will be made on October 8 - the anniversary of this month's settlement of *Der Spiegel's* libel action against him. Sir James's belief in the communist threat is as fierce as ever: indeed he has even slipped journalists the odd fiver to encourage red-baiting, but won't name names.

● Robert Maxwell's paranoia continues apace. The Mirror Group is currently advertising for a barrister and a solicitor, emphasizing the importance of experience - in litigation.

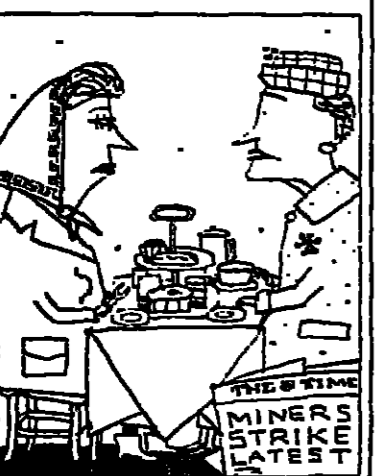
Balancing act

Daily Telegraph journalists fear they have lost all credibility for political independence following the disclosure at the weekend that Sir Geoffrey Howe's new PPS, Richard Ryder, MP, is to write leaders for the paper. They contend that he cannot comment impartially in the *Telegraph* while carrying out his duty to promote the Government. Ryder's first leader was due today but he failed to write it because he was unwell. He protested that he will not comment on foreign affairs, and will only be doing Sunday relief. "You mean there is a feeling that I could be biased?" he asked. "Well that is not for me to comment."

Cross purposes

Brian Crozier, founder of the Institute for the Study of Conflict, says he has chosen to write a novel about Soviet espionage because the "British law of libel is a very real obstacle in factual works." For the book, *The Andropov Deception*, he has adopted the pen name John Rossiter. It is not fictional enough to avoid other difficulties. The agent for a real-life John Rossiter, ex-policeman and crime novelist, has written to Crozier's publishers, "Andropov: I've never met the chap," he says.

BARRY FANTONI



'My dear, she's old enough to have candles left over from the last power cuts'

Blackbustler

Into the tinderbox of British-South African relations I toss the news that Sir Richard Attenborough is to produce and direct a *Gandhi*-scale epic on apartheid covering 20 years of recent South African history. The screenplay, probably by *Gandhi* scriptwriter John Briley, will be based on the autobiography of banned South African editor Donald Woods - now living in Britain - and his book on Steve Biko. Sir Richard tells me he hopes to meet government officials in South Africa in the spring but is pessimistic about getting permission to film there. Well he might be. During a two-week reconnaissance in South Africa in February he met Winnie Mandela, wife of the imprisoned African National Congress leader. A South African television reporter promptly claimed he had overheard Attenborough promise to make a pro-ANC propaganda film which would be released to coincide with national strikes. The report was hotly denied, but Attenborough has yet to receive a reply, let alone an apology, from the state-run South African Broadcasting Corporation.

PHS

Will coal stocks see us through the winter? Steve Thomas, Jim Skea and Chris Langdon make some predictions based on aerial photographs of supplies at key power stations

Why the lights could still go out

Since the miners' strike began in March there have been a series of dramatically conflicting predictions about when the lights would go out as power stations run out of coal.

Not surprisingly, the predictions usually support the interests of the side making them. Moss Evans, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, claimed 10 days ago that there would be power cuts by November. Mrs Thatcher, on the other hand, said last month: "There are not going to be power cuts this side of Christmas, and I don't believe there are going to be power cuts the other side of Christmas."

Independent analysts who have tried to estimate the size of power station coal stocks have had to contend with a lack of hard information. Generally they have had to do their best with informed guesswork.

Last week an aerial survey company made a detailed assessment of coal stocks at ten of the country's largest power stations, six in the Trent valley in the Midlands, and four in south Yorkshire. These ten stations together comprise more than half the country's coal-fired capacity. The survey used standard but very sophisticated methods of calculating volume from aerial photographs as used by the company in its work for the Coal Board and the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The results show that the stocks at the Yorkshire power stations are very low. Eggborough had 471,000 tonnes and Ferrybridge 640,000 tonnes, enough to last each four weeks at full burn. The other two, Drax and Thorpe Marsh, had respectively, three and seven weeks' full-output supply. These four stations have not received any new supplies since the strike began.

By contrast, the stations in the Trent valley have been receiving supplies from the nearby working mines and the Midlands open-pit mines at a rate of at least 600,000 tonnes a week. The largest, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, has 1.3 million tonnes, enough to run for nine weeks at full output. Cottam and West Burton each has more than one million tonnes, enough to last at least eight weeks.

These figures were compared with secret CEBG figures for regional coal stocks in England and Wales. The two sets of figures tally almost exactly and suggest that stocks are low in all areas except the Midlands.

The figures as a whole seem to present a much less rosy picture than the Government's pronouncements; but it is also clear that coal supply problems will not arise until late winter.

The key factor is demand for electricity during the winter months. Usually it rises from 25GW at night to 37-40GW during the day. Coal-fired stations normally provide 81 per cent of electricity, nuclear power 14 per cent and oil-powered stations the rest.

This winter, if the strike continues, we estimate that oil and nuclear stations will provide 50 per cent of supply. The Midlands power stations will be able to provide a further 30 per cent. But if the CEBG is to cope, it will have to rely on the stations outside the Midlands to provide the last 20 per cent. The key question is, do these stations have enough coal stocks to provide it?

Computer simulations by the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University predict that, at average winter conditions, stocks at the power stations outside the Midlands will fall from 6.8 million

tonnes at the beginning of October to 5.3 million tonnes by early December and 4 million tonnes in January. By early February there would be only 2.5 million tonnes, and by March levels would be dangerously low.

Stocks in the Midlands would still be high: 6.1 million tonnes, a net drop of only 1.3 million tonnes since October, but the Midlands stations do not have the capacity to fill the gap left by the other areas. Overall, peak demand throughout the country could not be met.

The achievement of the CEBG's engineers in delaying the point at which either power cuts must begin or the Government must take the major step of attempting to move coal stocks from strike-bound pits has been remarkable. Their success is undoubtedly due to more than simply running operational oil-fired stations to their maximum extent. Oil stations such as the Isle of Grain, Ince and Littlebrook have been taken out of mothballs to substitute oil for coal. Kingsnorth, a dual station which normally burns coal, has probably been switched to oil. A small dual-fired coal/gas station, Hams Hall, may also have switched.

Oil firing, has also been introduced into some stations officially designated coal-burning. At two "shifting stations" such as Didcot, which are turned on during the day to meet demand fluctuations, oil burners are normally used to start the station up. By running these oil burners continuously it would be possible to conserve coal stocks by between 10 per cent and 20 per cent. Also, some of the newer oil-fired stations may be capable of generating up to 10 per cent above their designed output, though for how long this could be done without

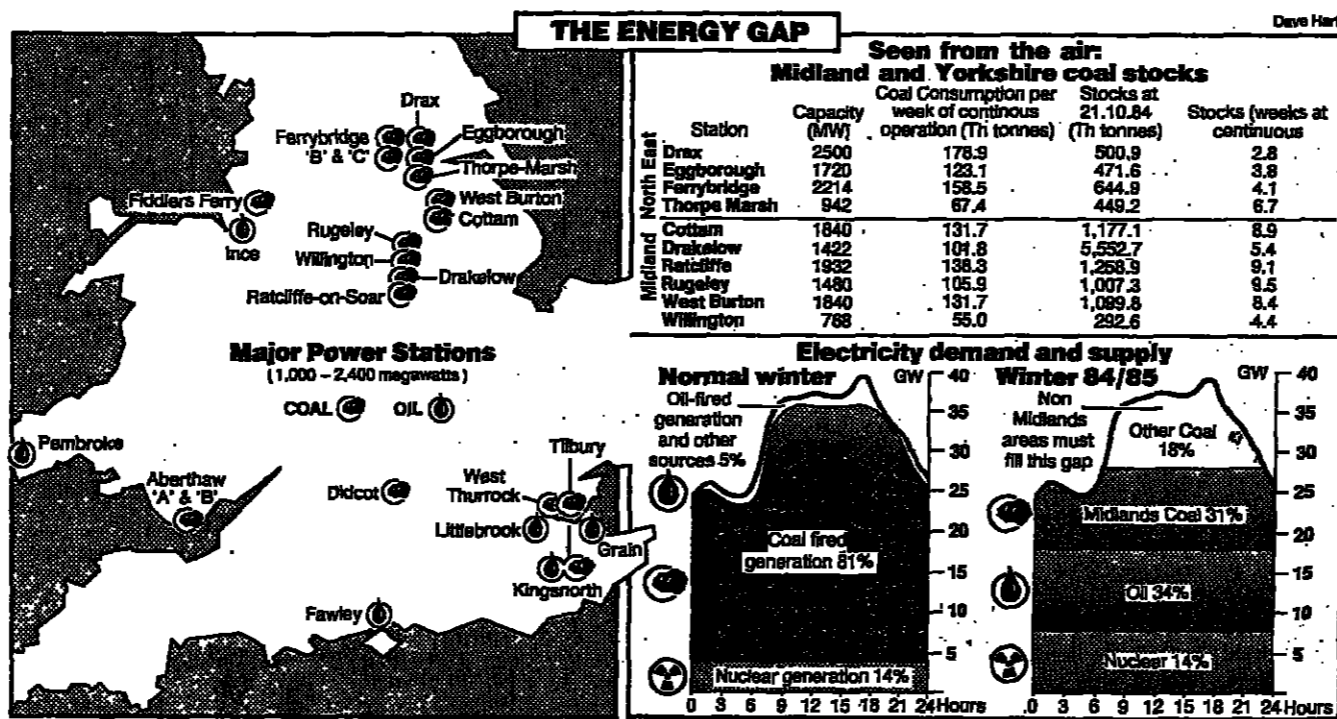
incurring unacceptable stresses on the plant is not an easy question to answer. Regular supplies of up to 600 megawatts, the equivalent of the output of a large station, are being received from Scotland, which has over-capacity.

But despite the CEBG's ingenuity, it seems unlikely that it will be able to avert a shortage in late winter. If this is indeed the case, the CEBG and the Government have a number of options open to them. The Government could introduce voluntary "Save It" campaigns and, if these were not enough, could ration electricity for street lighting and domestic use. But these measures would cut demand by only 2-3 per cent. Measures such as the reintroduction of a three-day working week would be more effective, but even then consumption would be cut by only about 15 per cent.

It would be possible for the CEBG to bring in imported coal from its stocks in Rotterdam, which are reported to total more than 2.8 million tonnes. These stocks could be moved to the coal-fired stations on the Thames such as West Thurrock and Tilbury, which have adequate unloading facilities. Alternatively, coal stockpiled at the striking pits could be moved to the power stations. This would require whole fleets of lorries. It has been estimated that it would involve 50,000 lorry loads to move 1.25 million tonnes.

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Steve Thomas and Jim Skea are research fellows at the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University. Chris Langdon is a researcher on the *Weekend World* programme, for which the research was conducted.



Jamaica Plain is a 25-minute taxi ride from the centre of Boston, but the taxi driver does not know the way. It is an immigrant area, mainly Hispanic, but the driver just says Jamaica Plain is not smart. And that is why Jayne Anne Phillips has lived here, in Victorian Bohemia, for the last two years - cut off from the Boston literary mafia who seek to fete her, landing her with invitations and adjectives in a flurry of attention.

Jayne Anne Phillips's first book, *Black Tickets*, (a collection of short fictions written in icy, hallucinatory prose) was published in 1979, to extravagant praise and has been translated into ten languages. Her first novel, *Machine Dreams*, took the American literary establishment by storm in June. Its reviews are the fabric of writers' dreams: the phrase, "a rare and important work of fiction" sums up the consensus.

She was born in 1952, but looks even younger than her 32 years. The age is relevant, because *Machine Dreams* ends with the death of Billy Hampson in Vietnam, and his family's grief.

Nadine Gordimer has praised "the intimate act of art by which this wonderful young writer has penetrated the definitive experience of her generation." Yet Phillips is too young to have experienced at first hand the great waves of anti-war protest which swept America at the end of the Sixties.

Machine Dreams is not "about" Vietnam. It is about history, and how patterns of insecurity and aggression, of war and personal suffering, are re-enacted inside each family.

She tells the story of one family: Mitch Hampson, a construction man who fought in Korea, his wife Jean, and their daughter Danner and son Billy. It is a series of shifting first-person chapters which move from 1942 to 1972, from postwar austerity in smalltown America, to the tragedy of Billy's plunge to earth in a foreign war, his "machine dream" of fighter planes over forever.

While discussing parrot's eggs and associated topics in this column recently, I made the rash assertion that Legionnaire's Disease and AIDS had not yet inspired any pop catch-phrases in the English language. Now I am as sick as a parrot in a budgie's cage myself. I have been sent persuasive evidence from a number of sources in Glasgow, that facile seedbed of slang, that Legionnaire's Disease at any rate has started to produce new usages. The bacterium is reported to have been found in the cooling water system of one of the city's best known breweries.

This is the sort of rumour that runs through the bars and saloons like, well, like the plague. We had better not mention the name of the brewery. But I am told, and do in part believe, that the latest jargonism at that great city for a Glaswegian to saunter into his local tavern and, irrespective of what brand of heavy

'A stunning first novel' was the accolade in yesterday's *Observer* to the American writer Jayne Anne Phillips. Bel Mooney, who visited her earlier this year, reports on the young and retiring creator of *Machine Dreams*

Main Street in the firing line



Jayne Anne Phillips: writing from real life

Phillips explains: "I think children inherit, not just gestures and features from their parents, but also their parents' unresolved histories."

The book is set in a small town in West Virginia, like Buckhamton, where the novelist grew up. She says that all the sensory details are taken from her own childhood, together with some of the broad strokes of family life. Her father worked in the construction business, her mother was a self-educated school administrator - closely paralleling the parents in the book.

Phillips learnt the art of waitressing early in life, just like her heroine Danner. As a schoolgirl she wrote poetry, escaping from family tension into its privacy. "I've always been glad I came from a family that wasn't literary or academic. There is a kind of genuine innocence in that sort of life - and I have a protectiveness towards it."

It is easy to see, then, the genesis of the novel's structure. Moving slowly, with a feeling of accident, it cases the characters into the reader's consciousness.

Catch phrase

New words for old, by Philip Howard

is on offer, to call for "a pint o' Legionnaire's."

This new phrase illustrates a number of characteristics of slang. It shows how fast the sort of sensational news that is presented in black headlines three inches deep in the pop tabloids affects the language. It illustrates the ebullient propensity of slang to mock the distasteful, brighten the gloomy, and say the unsayable.

It exemplifies the sharpness of Glasgow talk: "Awarn dunk yer doughnut". But the local point of the metaphorical use of Legionnaire's means, I think, that it will not spread as widely around the world as other Glasgow slang, such as the universal, "X Rules, OK?"

The tendency towards novelty in language is continual and irresistible. Some new words are so noisy, like a pint o' Legionnaire's, that we notice them at once. Other new words creep into our vocabularies by stealth, so that one day we sit up with a jerk when we find ourselves saying or writing them. A friend of mine who is the features editor of a famous old national magazine stumbled over the phrase "sight unseen" in a contributor's copy the other day, and tried to replace it with the simpler and shorter word "unseen". The contributor objected and the odious phrase stood.

"Sight unseen", when you stop to think about it, is an odd phrase, a kind of chimera with the head of a

tautology, the tail of a contradiction, and the body of a goat. It has come into the language only recently, but it is recorded in all the latest dictionaries. I guess from the exemplary citations that they give, about buying a car sight unseen, that the phrase comes from the flash and profane jargon of car sales. On the other hand it might just indicate, as Robert Borchfield of the *OED* argued devastatingly in the latest edition of *Countdown*, that lexicographers are the world's greatest plagiarists.

I think it is just an attempt to sound trendy: "unseen" does the same job more economically. I resolve never to use it myself, and to remove it from the copy of any contributor, be he or she as eminent as the Queen Mother.

Philip Howard's *The State of the Language* (English Observed) is published by Hamish Hamilton today at £8.95.

Edward Mortimer

Follow my leader, American style

I went to Washington the week before last for a "leadership seminar" at Georgetown University. The idea was, apparently, to assemble a group of foreign "leaders" and instruct them in the arts of American leadership - how Americans lead each other, and how they try to lead the rest of us. Of course I am not a leader, only a lead-writer; but when offered an invitation like that it is foolish to quibble.

Americans do not believe in doing things by halves. Having once got us all in Washington for a week they made sure that every minute of it was filled, from "breakfast round-table" to working dinner, with top-level "presentations" on almost every imaginable area of policy, foreign and domestic. As often as not the speaker was a senior member of the present administration, but we also heard distinguished members of the previous one, as well as independent economists, political commentators and even theologians.

What struck all of us foreigners, I think, was the extraordinary buoyancy and self-confidence of the current American mood. Having lived in America at the time of Reagan's election, and through his first seven months in office, I remembered his supporters as people given to a rather alarmist view of the way the world was going, and preoccupied to the point of obsession with the menace of Soviet power.

All of that has gone. After nearly four years in office, these people exude an impressive serenity. If they have not already solved the world's problems, they really seem to believe they will on the way.

Far from being obsessed with the Soviet menace, their attitude to the Russians is condescending, almost indulgent. US-Soviet relations, we were told, are not as bad as they may sound: witness not only the recent Gromyko visit but the agreement to upgrade the "hot line" and various other quiet diplomatic dealings. True, there is a lot of anti-American rhetoric in the Soviet media, but one should not take too much notice of that. The Soviet leadership is currently passing through a difficult transfer of power from one generation to the next (needless to say, the fact that Reagan and Chernenko are the same age is not much emphasized), but once this is resolved, if not sooner, it can be expected to return to arms control talks on more or less the previous basis. Why? Because the creaking Soviet economy cannot face the strain of the next lap in the arms race, the "star wars" lap.

The American economy, by contrast, is booming. To the crucial question "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?" a majority of Americans can cheerfully answer yes, and does not appear unduly worried about the minority, comprising most of those who were worst off to start with, which would have to answer no.

Inflation is down to 4 per cent. Unemployment, which peaked at 10.6 per cent in 1982, is now 7.4 - comparing favourably with almost all European countries. The "misery index", invented by President Carter to express the combined effect of inflation and unemployment, now stands at 11 per cent compared to 20 when he left office. It is true that real interest rates, net of the cost of borrowing money over and above what is required simply to maintain its purchasing power - are two or three times as high as they have ever been in peacetime. But the psychological impact of this on Americans is small, partly because the actual figure a bank charges on a given sum of money is so much lower and partly because the rates are attracting an enormous inflow of foreign capital which fuels the boom. That in turn keeps pushing up the value of the dollar, making imports and foreign travel cheap and helping to hold domestic prices down.

It all seems very unfair. While the US Government sternly admonishes Israel and various Latin American countries to get government spending under control in order to service their debts and stabilize their currencies, at home it practises the opposite. It is running a current account deficit on its transactions with the rest of the world of \$80bn, with apparently excellent results. Former US treasury secretaries of both parties warn Reagan he must reduce government borrowing by taxing more or spending less, or preferably both. He solemnly swears to do neither, but in the meantime seems to lead him more and more money.

"Expectations", a well-known economic pundit reminded us, "are very important in economics". The mood in US business circles is definitely "up-beat", and to a large extent this is self-fulfilling. The same gentleman saw no economic future for Europe except as "a museum". At this point at least one European in his audience was tempted to remind him that the mood was also rather "up-beat" in the summer of 1929. Similarly, when hearing about the inability of the Russians to bear the cost of the "star wars" race, I could not help remembering the recent thirty-fifth anniversary of the Soviet Union's graduation to nuclear power status - an event so many Western experts had predicted could not happen, or at any rate not for many years.

Nothing is certain in this life but two things: one is that the Soviet Union will make almost any economic sacrifice rather than accept a position of permanent military inferiority to the United States. The other is that a boom fuelled by massive government borrowing overseas to finance an enormous foreign trade deficit will sooner or later go bust. But I expect I have got it all wrong. Let's hope so, because it will be no fun being proved right on either count.

Anne Sofer

Back to your own chairs, everyone

Despite all the future, most people do not realize how silly the Government is being over the GLC. The House of Lords may have knocked the biggest constitutional outrage out of the Paving Bill, but it left plenty of smaller nonsense intact. One of these is the requirement that the letting of any of the thousands of flats the GLC still manages, and will continue to manage for the next two years, is subject to Department of the Environment approval.

This is part of "removing a tier of government." In fact, looking back over that opening sentence, "mad" would be more accurate. Relations between national and local government have reached a level of psychotic distrust in which the only activity permissible is a sort of Mad Hatter's musical chairs. The main rule is: "Whatever your job is, do somebody else's". Thus while the Department of the Environment allocates flats in Bethnal Green, the GLC runs the Northern Ireland Office - or pretends to.

And there is the difference. Local government's forays into national and international policy-making may irritate or inspire, but they have no more immediate effect than does the peace workers' idealistic gesture of declaring the Greenham Common duck pond a nuclear-free zone. By contrast, when national government decides to waste into local government's territory, it does so wearing steel-capped wellies.

The GLC example is not a one-off anomaly. It is an extreme and highly visible symptom of a general malaise, a malaise of frustrated malaise at the heart of the Tories' local government policy.

It is all about the delivery of services. At the centre of Thatcherite thinking is the conviction that the ideal form of service delivery is by private treaty between customer and provider - hence the sale of council houses and the educational assisted places scheme.

But it has now been realized that this philosophy cannot be taken to its logical conclusion without a radical redistribution of wealth and power: every family cannot be potential home-owners without something like a negative income tax and a big house-building programme; a universal voucher system in education cannot be operated without both a large increase in public spending and a significant interference with the independent schools' admission policies.

Similar frustrations have accompanied the drive towards the "next best" form of service delivery

privatization. A few services have been shifted by compliant Conservative councils from directly employed labour to independent commercial undertakings, but the impact on overall costs and efficiency has hardly been earth-shattering. Society is not going to be transformed, or government got off our backs, by such relatively minor changes.

Hence the Government is forced back on a dependence on local government to provide basic services. To rub salt in the wound, Whitehall knows that local government has been more efficient at cutting expenditure over the last five years than it has itself. The Government, psychologically incapable of accepting with good grace that it is stuck with the existing relationship, is behaving like an arriving spouse returning reluctantly from a dream romance, growling and sulking and treating its mate as the wholly guilty partner. The conventions of joint deliberation are abandoned and a programme of orchestrated criticism and public humiliation is embarked on.

If it were not for the state of total war that exists between the Government and Labour local authorities, the basic relations with Conservative councils would be getting more prominent headlines. As it is, almost every week there are stories of furious meetings of the Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils, and angry warnings about the forthcoming rate grant settlement. In large part this is caused by the Government's remorseless retraction of funds. But it is also because of the new practice of suddenly, and without consultation, changing the rules.

Pacing with fidgity frustration, around the problem of public spending as if it were some sort of giant board game, ministers keep moving services from one council to another, pouncing suddenly as if a bold gambit, that just might prove a winner, has been made. Some counters (vocational education, London Transport) are moved from local to national management; others (housing benefit, community care) are moved from national to local.

Institutional marriage guidance is badly needed. Perhaps the latest new inquiry into local government finance which Patrick Jenkin has so unconvincedly announced may contain one or two experts great and good enough to utter some wise and healing words. Most people by now think that it's too late for them to have such help.

The author is SDF member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.



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THE IRISH DIMENSION

We shall not be bombed off course was the instinctive response of ministers to the outrage at the Grand Hotel in Brighton. It is also the rational response after reflection.

The course of British policy towards Ireland was summarized for the Brighton conference by the new Secretary of State, Mr Douglas Hurd. It is rooted in the maintenance of the union with Northern Ireland in accordance with the majority there. It has three strands: to prosecute the campaign against insurrectionary violence; to continue to seek out common ground between the political parties in Northern Ireland; and to foster good relations with the Republic of Ireland. After an attempt on the lives of members of the Cabinet it is natural and right to throw into relief the first of those components, the suppression of terrorism. But not being bombed off course means keeping all three components in play.

The policy is criticized from the left for the absence of any positive reference to Irish unification. It is criticized from the right for conceding too much to terrorism. You cannot, it is asserted, placate the IRA. But nobody in authority supposes that you can. Placating the IRA has formed no part of government policy, at least since Mr Whitelaw's proconsulate more than ten years ago when they tried talking truces with the Provisionals. Assuaging the grievances and fears of the nationalist minority in the province is another matter, and that does form part of government policy.

That is in line with rule one of the manuals on counter-terrorism, which is about winning the hearts and minds of the population that spawns the terrorists. The terrorists themselves are implacable. But the communities that shelter them in this instance, are not, being variously less fanatical, motivated, discontented and fixed in hatred. In the classic metaphor, policy must seek to deprive the fish of the water in which they swim.

The nationalist community in Northern Ireland (not by any means coextensive with the Roman Catholic community) is the one substantial section of the island's population that is not seated comfortably in the rough and ready dispensation of partition. The grievances of northern nationalists, real or imagined, historically conditioned or presently experienced, are the elements into which the Provisional IRA was born and in which it has its being.

Prudence suggests those grievances must be attended to, those fears reduced. Otherwise the sting of republican violence in Northern Ireland, spilling outwards over the British Isles, will not be drawn, save by methods of military repression more extreme than any British government is likely to have support for over the full period of time the methods would have to be given to work.

To this analysis it is objected that what animates the Provisionals is not other people's grievances but their own hopes. Starve them of hope that they can get to their objective (expulsion of the British presence in

Ireland and the imposition of revolutionary socialism throughout the island) and they will face the facts, ground arms, and bide their time, as other generations of IRA commanders have done since 1922. Any concession to the nationalists in Northern Ireland will be seen or twisted by the Provos and their apologists in Sinn Féin as a concession won by them and a measurable step towards victory. By accommodating any part of the demands of northern nationalism the Government furnishes the terrorists with hope, which is the sustenance of their campaign.

That is a conclusive argument against granting any concession which really is a preliminary to the abandonment of British responsibilities in Ulster, or making any move which carries a clear implication of that kind. But by no means everything the nationalists are looking for is of that description. And to advocate the refusal of even non-unifactory concessions to the northern nationalists on the ground that the IRA will choose to misrepresent them for the benefit of its own morale is to overlook the security implications of the Irish border.

The organization of the IRA, its supply lines and its recruiting grounds straddle the border. The cooperation of the authorities in the Republic is required if the IRA is to be squeezed out. That cooperation is to an important extent conditional on the Northern Ireland administration doing right (as Dublin sees it) by the nationalist community there. Thus the effectiveness of any counter-terrorist policy in its security aspect depends crucially on Anglo-Irish cooperation, which in turn depends on how Britain deals with the unsettled minority in the North.

The linkage is dubious. Is not the threat posed by the IRA to constitutional government in the Republic plain enough for Dublin to cooperate in its extermination without conditions? Yes, but it has to be recognized that there are practical political restraints on how far any Irish government can go in joining a British government in an offensive against the IRA without first, or at the same time, achieving conspicuous betterment of the status of the northern nationalists. Irish ministers are their self-proclaimed protectors and guarantors. If Dublin is to join forces with London and Belfast in smashing the terrorists' way of improving the political status of nationalists in Ulster, Dublin has to show that it has a better way that works.

Now it may be the case, and at one time it looked to be the case, that the full extent of the Republic's law enforcement will not be applied cooperatively against the IRA unless the British government somehow signifies an intention to commit its influence to the achievement of Irish unity. If so, one might well stop looking for Dublin's participation in a joint drive against republican violence, for the price demanded, payable in broken faith and civil war in Ulster, would be too high. It would then be necessary to fall back on unilateral measures — very much a second best — to make the border more secure

and points of entry from Ireland to Great Britain subject to closer control.

However, the glosses Dr Garrett Fitzgerald has been putting on the report of the New Ireland Forum point to a different conclusion. Their significance is that Dublin may be signalling that it is not now setting as a condition for harmonious relations and uninhibited collaboration in security a requirement that the British government espouse the cause of Irish unity, or offer its best endeavours to win consent for it, or establish a framework in Ulster capable of rapid conversion into Irish federalism, or perform some other crab-like motion in that direction; rather that Dublin acknowledges the reality and durability of the Ulster unionists' grand refusal, and is ready to settle tactically in this generation for arrangements that give the northern nationalists practical assurances that (in words the Unionist party itself has extended to them) "the province is theirs also", and that they have a window to the south. If that is so, the ground has shifted.

It is to be hoped that the machinery of the Anglo-Irish intergovernmental council and unpunctuated meetings between British and Irish ministers are being used to test the truth or otherwise of that impression, so that Mrs Thatcher when she meets Dr Fitzgerald as expected next month will be in a position to form a judgment for herself.

If that impression is correct — that Dublin (without burying the "national aspiration") is not looking for gestures or action bearing the hallmark of unification, but is looking for new ways by which the nationalists can be induced to play a full part in the public life of the province under British sovereignty for the time being and for as long as the majority holds to that allegiance; and if Mr John Hume's SDLP, which was of course a participant in the new Ireland Forum, is also of that mind; then the British Government should be generous in its examination of ways and means.

It should be ready to look again at possible provincial institutions, lines of cross-border consultation, and inter-government and inter-parliamentary forms, always provided they do not actually compromise or call in question Northern Ireland's status as a part of the United Kingdom.

It will be necessary to proceed gradually and to carry the confidence of both sides of the community in Northern Ireland. Ulster unionists are owed a political leadership that is capable of distinguishing between conciliatory moves which do and do not put the union at risk. Their political friends at Westminster have a special responsibility in that respect. And they are owed a leadership that has the frankness to tell them that the union is most — perhaps only — endangered by weariness on the part of the English, Scots and Welsh at the apparent inability of the members of the Irish component of the kingdom to take even small steps together to compose their inveterate sanguinary quarrel.

TV showing of the Tebbit rescue

From the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Sir, Since there has been some comment both in Parliament and the media on the decision to televise my rescue from the rubble of the Grand Hotel, I think it may be helpful for me to make known my own (admittedly subjective) view.

I understand those who, with my interest and that of others who may be in similar circumstances in mind, criticized the broadcast as an invasion of privacy. Had I been asked before the event a hypothetical question on the issue I, too, would have said it would be wrong to broadcast. I now believe that is wrong and the BBC was right.

My view has been shaped by knowledge of the reactions of many people who have written or sent messages to me. They and millions like them of widely differing political views and in many countries were shocked and dismayed, perhaps in some cases disillusioned, by the wanton violence and loss of life which use of bombs to main and kill, rather than democratic means, for political ends. Perhaps, too, the TV coverage will have reminded us of the quiet courage and skill of the emergency services on whom we all depend, but hopefully few of us have occasion to use.

I remain of the view that it would be wrong to transmit such pictures of the distress of victims of, say, a railway accident, but this was no accident; it was murder and attempted murder and it was an event of public and political importance.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN TEBBIT,
Stoke Mandeville Hospital,
Mandeville Road,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
October 28.

Competitive cars

From the Director of The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd

Sir, Your leader "Competitive cars" of October 19 was right to draw attention to the importance of the motor industry, right to focus upon the problems of production scale compared with other motor manufacturing nations and right, too, to note that the drive for competitiveness is not yet over.

The motor industry in Britain believes that there is indeed potential for further growth, with its associated scale economies, if the constraints upon the industry to which you referred — e.g., the discriminatory car tax — were removed, and if all concerned realize the importance of achieving competitiveness in costs.

You were wrong, however, to suggest that the manufacturers were able to frustrate a free market, and your advice that the industry should cease to resist full competition within Europe was not based on a sound analysis of the realities of that market.

In particular, the EEC's proposals to enforce harmonization of car prices in Europe would pose a serious threat to the industry's survival. There is no common market at present and never will be so long as countries have different fiscal policies, different rates of inflation, fluctuating exchange rates and different political regimes. In these circumstances it is misguided in the extreme to hand prices control of any commodity to bureaucrats in Brussels.

At a time when attention is increasingly focused on unemployment, the health of an industrial sector which provides in total more than a million jobs, and its ability to secure those jobs and create others, is of the first importance.

The motor industry will, in the months to come, set out in detail the steps necessary to secure that health, one of which is a minimum of legislative interference — be it by Whitehall or Brussels.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY FRASER, Director,
The Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders Ltd,
Forbes House,
Halkin Street, SW1,
October 18.

Trials in Yugoslavia

From Mr Anton Logoreci

Sir, Writing about her recent expulsion from Yugoslavia because of her contacts with critics of its communist regime (October 11), Nora Bell says that Milovan Djilas "is treated as a political leper by Western countries". It is his share his values but not his courage.

In fact, Western governments as well as diplomats have maintained more or less the same attitude to many hundreds of young Albanians who have been sent to prison in Kosovo and Macedonia since the student riots of 1981. Trials are still being held more than three years after those events.

For instance, at the beginning of last July, seven Albanians in their early twenties and two minors were sentenced by a court in Prishtina to from two to ten years. Early this month, six Albanians aged from 17 to 27 were given prison sentences, by a court at Peć, ranging from eight months to seven years.

These and numerous other trials that have taken place since 1981 have never been referred to in public, let alone condemned, by any Western government. Such pusillanimous silence clearly does nothing for the persecuted Albanians of Yugoslavia. But it also does nothing for the political stability, cohesion and, ultimately, the independence of Yugoslavia itself.

Yours sincerely,
ANTON LOGORECI,
18 Disraeli Gardens,
Fawe Park Road, SW15,
October 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Common aims for defence in Europe

From Sir Clive Rose

Sir, What are you trying to tell us in your leading article on "Europe's nuclear triangle" (October 24)? That the Federal Republic has lost faith in the American commitment and is likely to go either nuclear or neutralist? That Britain and France might offer — or the Germans request — their nuclear forces as a credible alternative to the American guarantee? That France has no defence commitments in Europe other than the defence of French territory?

If true, the first proposition should make our flesh creep. But there is no hard evidence to support it. The "peace movement" in West Germany is strong and vocal: it is anti-nuclear, anti-American and anti-Nato. But it is not about to take over from Chancellor Kohl's government, which was elected last year on a platform based on precisely the opposite of these policies and has demonstrated by its actions its support for Nato and for the decision to deploy American missiles in Europe.

The national aspiration for reunification has always been recognised and respected by West Germany's allies, but the neutralist route — if it ever existed — was rejected by the West Germans in 1954. Its dangers are as evident to the majority of Germans today as they were then. As for a "nuclear Germany", it would do more than rule out hopes of reunification. Apart from being a direct breach of the German undertaking in the Brussels Treaty, it is difficult to think of any action by the West which the Russians would regard as a more flagrant *cassus belli*. Is there any serious constituency in the Federal Republic for this course? I doubt it.

The second proposition really has no foundation. There is no informed support in any of the countries concerned for the idea that the two national nuclear forces, either separately or jointly (and that raises some big questions) could take the place of the Americans. Within what strategic concept or political framework (short of a federal Europe) would this idea be viable? What sort

of assurance could the West Germans have that the minimum strategic forces under the independent control of the British and French governments would provide a credible deterrent to a Russian attack on the Federal Republic?

As to the third proposition, one need only refer to the obligations which France has assumed under the two multilateral defence treaties to which she is a party. Both the Brussels Treaty and the North Atlantic Treaty commit France to provide military assistance to any party which is the victim of an armed attack. France's absence from the Nato military structure since 1966 is a major disadvantage, which weakens the Alliance's defence posture. But it does not in any way affect France's treaty obligations, which no one doubts would be honoured to the full.

You are right to emphasize the importance of bilateral defence relations between France and her principal European allies. This can go some way to mitigate, though it cannot eliminate, the weakness referred to above. It is, of course, no substitute for the continuing multilateral planning and discussion of strategy which goes on in Nato. This is why you are also right to stress the limitations of moves towards a "European defence dimension". To the extent that these lead to a stronger European defence contribution to and voice in Nato they are to be welcomed. But any idea that such a "dimension" should develop in some way separately from or outside Nato would risk undermining the whole basis of Western defence.

A key issue for bilateral Anglo-French discussion must be to establish a common objective for defence co-operation in Western Europe, for example, the French initiative to revitalise the Western European Union.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE ROSE,
Chimney House,
Lavenham,
Suffolk,
October 24.

Imperilling union

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor

Sir, Your leader of October 25 is itself eloquent evidence that, as President Mitterrand has tactfully hinted, British and French attitudes towards the future of Europe are not the same. The Preamble to the Rome treaties pledges the signatories "to establish the foundations of an ever closer union among the European peoples". Yet, when practical proposals designed to achieve this aim are endorsed by a majority of MEPs from every member state of the European Community, except Denmark, your response is to dismiss them as unworthy of consideration.

Can there be any doubt, however, after the recent elections to the European Parliament, that the institutions of the Community appear to the electorates of the member states as remote and ineffective? Moreover, the likely accession of Spain and Portugal in 1986 is bound to place even more strain on the convention of unanimity in the Council of Ministers.

Ethiopian relief

From Mr S. F. Barnes

Sir, I have just arrived from India where the *Indian Express*, September 2, referred to the huge stocks of surplus food in the EEC under the heading "Human food going to animals". The paper reported that the EEC will spend \$950m (approximately £780m) this year in giving surplus human food, including 1.3 million tons of grain and 1.8 million tons of powdered skim milk, to animals.

It has been known for over a year that the shortage of food in Africa would become critical, a fact that seems to have been largely ignored by the EEC Commission. It is difficult to understand how any Western government holding huge stocks of surplus food can get rid of it by heavily subsidising its use as animal feed for animals while, in poor countries, children starve to death.

The EEC allocates some 10 per cent of its surplus food to food aid programmes. The reluctance of the EEC to increase this allocation is perhaps understandable while an

The danger is one of total deadlock and immobilism in Community institutions. The practical realities of the European Community demand, therefore, that a fresh look be taken at its structure and method of operation.

"The unity of the Community cannot", you declare, "be achieved by trying to enforce it through institutions". That is precisely why the Government, which supports the Community, should play its educative role in stimulating a debate about the future of Europe. Otherwise, President Mitterrand's avowed sympathy for the aim of European Unity could lead to this union coming about without British participation.

It will then be too late to complain, as we did after the Rome treaties were signed, that the arrangements reached are inimical to our own national interests.

Yours faithfully,
VERNON BOGDANOR,
Brasenose College,
Oxford,
October 25.

international agreement exists which requires any food used in an official aid programme to be charged against aid budgets at market price. The increased use of surplus food as aid, under these circumstances, would seriously reduce the aid funds available for development projects.

Four years ago the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons, following a detailed investigation of the use of surplus dairy products in food aid programmes, recommended in its report that this agreement should be done away with. But for this agreement milk powder for Ethiopia could be subsidised in the same way that it is for animal feed. Surely the needs of starving children should take priority over feeding animals.

If the agreement referred to by the Agricultural Committee prevents larger quantities of surplus milk powder being made available for starving children, immediate action needs to be taken to revoke this agreement.

Yours faithfully,
S. F. BARNES,
12 Palace Street, SW1,
October 25.

Safe tenure

From the Director of Shelter

Sir, The reports from the Conservative Conference that the Government are contemplating reducing security of tenure for private tenants come as no surprise but are depressing nonetheless.

It is, of course, true that the private rented sector has, historically, been discriminated against. Whereas governments have subsidised the costs of owning and renting from public landlords, they have, in effect, used rent control to avoid having to do the same for private tenants.

Four years ago, in an attempt to encourage new investment in rented homes, the Government introduced the concept of "assured" tenancies. Basically, this allowed registered landlords to let homes at economic rents. These landlords were potentially major investors for whom security of tenure was not a problem.

The assured tenancy scheme has failed because economic rents are so high in relation to the costs of a mortgage. It took off briefly when providers of assured tenancies were given the opportunity to claim capital allowances, an advantage inadvertently removed in the 1984 Budget.

If economic rents are not sufficient to encourage investors, all that removal of security will do will

be to enable landlords to get vacant possession more quickly, and either charge grossly high rents or sell to would-be owners. We desperately need more rented housing but we will only get it when government acts on the ridiculous imbalance in the subsidies available to owner and renters.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL MCINTOSH, Director,
Shelter,
157 Waterloo Road, SE1,
October 12.

Cards of identity

From Mr Charles Fyffe

Sir, In answer to Mr Richard Fiennes (October 17) we did indeed have identity cards during the war and pretty useless they were. Crime flourished, as always, and there were some 30,000 deserters who were never caught although identity cards were necessary to obtain a ration book and employment cards.

Identity cards give employment to civil servants, a lovely sense of power to those who can demand to see them and, like the passport, are a nuisance to the honest man and no deterrent to the dishonest one. Ask Mr Ronald Biggs, Dr Pontecorvo or the numerous untrustworthy crooks living on the Costa del Sol.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES FYFFE,
52 Holmdale Road, NW6,
October 21.

Doubts on Unesco membership

From Lord Harris of High Cross and others

Sir, The record of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is deplorable. It has become thoroughly politicised and has adopted an illiberal view on human rights and a totalitarian view on the exchange of ideas and information. Its accounting procedures are inefficient and there is no check on where the money goes. It is hostile to the West in general and Britain in particular.

The US has, quite rightly, given its withdrawal notice. The reaction of Unesco's Director General, Mr M'Bow, is to suggest some merely cosmetic changes.

There are, in fact, no chances of reform unless other countries join the United States.

It is vital, therefore, that Britain gives a year's notice of withdrawal: this will have considerable impact on other European countries and on less developed nations who are particularly suffering as a result of Unesco's inefficiency.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
IAN ORR-ERWIN,
ALFRED SHERMAN,
T. E. UTLEY,
MICHAEL IVENS,
40 Doughty Street, WC1,
October 26.

From the Director of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Ireland

Sir, I was interested to read the report of Unesco's acceptance of Western proposals that there should be no increase in the budget for the two-year period 1986-87 and heartened by Mr M'Bow's assurance that he would not increase the remaining members' contributions to make up the loss of the United States contribution if that country leaves the organization. I hope very much that these developments will help the United Kingdom to decide to remain in the organization rather than to announce its intention to withdraw.

The Government's main criticisms of Unesco seem to concern the nature of its programmes on communication and media questions and on human rights, peace and disarmament; the working of the executive board and the general conference; certain budgetary matters and maladministration and overcentralisation at headquarters. Some of these criticisms may well be justified but they are being highlighted in a manner quite out of proportion to the total work of Unesco.

Unesco has done and continues to do a great deal of very valuable practical work in the field. Its literacy campaigns have had considerable success. It is deeply involved in the preservation of historical monuments and sites such as Venice, the Acropolis, the Plaza Vieja in Havana, the island of Goree in Senegal and Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle. Its scientific work, for example, the International Hydrological Programme, the Programme on Man and the Biosphere and the oceanographic research programmes, is generally applauded. It is often forgotten that the United Kingdom benefits considerably from its membership of Unesco. A high proportion of Unesco scholarship holders and professionals are trained in this country and much equipment of Unesco projects is bought from us.

The United Kingdom Government has made a number of proposals for the reform of Unesco and it seems that they are being taken seriously. It would, in our view, be infinitely preferable for our Government to decide to remain a member and to continue to work from within for such reforms as it deems necessary.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM HARPER,
United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
3 Whitehall Court, SW1,
October 24.

VAT on books

From Mr Winston Graham

Sir, Last year, when I was talking to a member of the Government, amiably pressing on him the desirability of taking VAT off the live theatre, he replied: "Do you want us to subsidise the Raymond Revuebar?"

Similar arguments are no doubt being put to the Chancellor as to why he should subsidise (by failing to tax) the paperback trash that appears today on many bookshelves. The unfortunate truth is that there is simply no way for the Government to take a swipe at such people without hitting the wrong targets. (No way, that is, without introducing some quality test, which would make everyone ridiculous.)

The unduly will always flourish, and a VAT would hardly worry them at all. The introduction of what would be in its effect a Philistine tax would simply make life very much harder for the good author, a good publisher, and the good bookseller.

Yours faithfully,
WINSTON GRAHAM,
Abbotswood House,
Buxted,
Sussex,
October 20.

Hic jacet...

From Mr George Ball

Sir, Last evening, with the exception of the headwaiter's, mine and a baked potato, all jackets in the hotel dining room had been draped on the chair backs.

Surely it is epitaph time for a nation so lacking in decorum as to address for dinner?

Yours faithfully,
G. BALL,
15 Wimborne Road,
Leicester,
October 25.

AMERICAN AND PROUD OF IT

Journalists on both sides of the Atlantic dutifully report the virtual certainty of "four more years" for Mr Reagan. But most of them do not conceal their own surprise that this should be so. Mr Reagan is not popular with the media — or not, at least, with the East Coast elite that makes up the bulk of the serious commentators on American politics. Such people are for the most part "liberals" in the American sense — that is, left of centre. The popularity of a conservative populist President makes the pundits uneasy: they see it as a paradox to be explained.

The irritation and bewilderment of the liberal elite are strengthened by its lively sense of intellectual and cultural superiority to Mr Reagan. He is not and does not pretend to be a sophisticated man. He often gets things wrong. His grasp even of such a crucial matter as nuclear weapons technology appears, to sophisticated people, to be extremely shaky. Mr Strobe Talbott, the diplomatic correspondent for *Time* magazine, educated at Hotchkiss, Yale and Oxford, has established this point in his book *Deadly Gambits*, the timing of which one might have thought devastating for the President's re-election

campaign. Mr Mondale clearly hoped so, for he made a point of quoting the book in the Kansas City debate. And Mr Reagan, in answering him, made it clear that he still thinks a sea, or airborne nuclear missile is somehow inherently more controllable than a land-based one. He also sounded thoroughly vague about what he meant by his offer to "share" defensive missile technology with the Soviet Union if and when the US develops it.

Such points worry the intelligentsia. But they do not seem to worry unduly the majority of ordinary Americans. The latter are materially better off than they were four years ago. Mr Mondale warns them that that will not last because the federal deficit will have to be reduced either by increased taxation or by cuts in social security, or both. That is not a message that people enjoy listening to. It is much more comfortable to believe Mr Reagan when he says that things are going to go on getting better. Why should people believe that a policy which has produced lower inflation and more jobs with lower taxes is bad?

That is part of the story, but only part. The other thing that

most Americans clearly like about Mr Reagan is his unashamed patriotism, his determination to win international respect through strength. His objective success in doing that is debatable: the verdict would be different in different parts of the world. But his proclaimed desire to do it, rather than to conciliate carping foreigners or to apologize for the use of American power, is clearly in tune with a profound American mood.

Mr Mondale's worst handicap is that he reminds people of an epoch of self-doubt and national humiliation, which most of them believe that Mr Reagan has put firmly behind them. One can argue, and Mr Mondale does, that the Lebanese debacle was a worse and more unnecessary humiliation than anything that happened during the Carter presidency. But that is of little help to the success in Grenada, and above all by the general aura of firmness, coupled with sincere benevolence towards whoever is prepared to meet him half way, which the President so brilliantly projects. What Mr Reagan stands for is what most Americans want to believe in: their own virtue and their own strength. It is what their allies should want to believe in too.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 27: The Duke of Edinburgh, a Trustee of the Council of St George's House, this morning attended a Consultation on Science and Religion at St George's House, Windsor Castle.

October 28: The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Sea Cadet Corps, this morning presented New Colours to The Ship Windsor Castle (Captain, Mr Neville Hallifax) at a Parade at Windsor Castle.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Berkshire (Colonel the Hon Gordon Palmer), the President of the Sea Cadet Association (Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach) and the Captain of the Sea Cadet Corps (Captain I. R. Bowden, RN).

Major the Hon Andrew Wigam was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, a Trustee of the Council of St George's House, attended the final plenary session of the Consultation on Science and Religion at St George's House, Windsor Castle.

CLARENCE HOUSE

October 28: Lady Clark had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother on board HM Yacht Britannia in Venice this morning when Her Majesty, on behalf of the Queen, invested her with the insignia of an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, attended by the Dowager Viscountess Hambleden, Lady Elizabeth Basset, Sir Martin Gilliat, Sir Alastair Aird and Captain James Lowther-Pinkerton, disembarked from HM Yacht Britannia in Venice and travelled to London in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 28: The Prince of Wales left Royal Air Force Lyneham this afternoon in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight for Italy, where His

Majesty will be attending the funeral of Pope John Paul II.

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs G. H. Trewby, of Yew Tree Farm, Hursbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, and Kim Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. K. Wheway, of Newton Abbot, Devon.

The engagement is announced between Ashley, elder son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Bell, of Morpeth, Northumberland, and Christine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Austin Brown, of Seaburn, Sunderland.

Dr J. C. Blevins and Dr J. V. Davies. The engagement is announced between Timothy Cameron Scott, younger son of Mr and Mrs John C. Blevins, of Pottery, Wiltshire, and Jane Victoria, younger daughter of Dr David and Dr Joan V. Davies, of Blundell Farm, Dorset.

Mr J. F. B. Borge and Miss J. P. Borge. The engagement is announced between Jean-François, only son of Mr and Mrs J. J. Borge, of La Cote, France, and Christine, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs F. C. B. of Twickenham, Middlesex.

Mr A. J. Peck and Miss C. M. Lowe. The engagement is announced between Andrew Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs D. C. Peck, of Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, and Claire Margaret, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P. H. Lowe, of Leek, Staffordshire.

Mr M. J. Sargantson and Miss E. C. Sargantson. The engagement is announced between Mark, second son of Mr R. E. Sargantson, of Britwell Salme, Oxfordshire, and Mrs R. Sargantson, of Idm, Oxfordshire, and Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs F. W. Hulme, of York.

Mr A. H. Scott and Miss B. M. Dearden. The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Scott, of Maiden, Wiltshire, and Brenda, daughter of the late Mr James Dearden and Mrs M. Dearden, of Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.

Major D. J. B. Wood and Mrs J. B. Wood. The engagement is announced between David Wood, 14th/20th King's Hussars, eldest son of the late Colonel Basil Wood and Mrs Basil Wood, of Bull Farm House, Haverhill, Kent, and Frances, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Atkyns, of Little Cowell Grove, Farnham, Surrey.

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What exactly is the Church?

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Leaders of the Protestant, Orthodox, Anglican, and Roman Catholic churches of Europe took their seats in the nave of the ancient cathedral of Trent, northern Italy, earlier this month to remember an earlier occasion in the same spot, the sixteenth-century Council of Trent which set the seal on the Reformation split of Christendom.

They prayed under the same medieval crucifix to be led out of the impasse that that council had taken them into. Participants described it as immensely moving and powerfully symbolic. Cardinal Basil Hume, of Westminster, president of the council of European bishops' conferences, called the event "an impossible dream" in his concluding address; the Rev André Appel, president of the Conference of European Churches, said for Protestants Trent could become a sign of hope; and the Archbishop of Trent, Mgr Alessandro Gottardi, declared to the assembly that "all must accept some responsibility" for the divisions and dissensions which were aggravated by the Council of Trent, despite its intentions to foster renewal and unity.

The service itself was heavy with guilt, shame, sorrow, repentance, and hope. Outside the common people of Trent celebrated in the streets. It was all a very long way from the streets of Belfast, Glasgow, Manchester or Milton Keynes, though Trent was very much part of the history of each of them. Whether divided by or indifferent to religion, the common people of those streets are also children of the world born then. Trent sealed the English Reformation too, with its Scottish and Irish consequences, still unresolved and socially divisive.

Lacking all that Tridestine drama, a something took place in London two weeks ago of leaders of British Protestant, Anglican, and Roman Catholic churches to search out the next stage in their more local journey towards church unity.

Its genesis was the parallel initiatives, earlier this year, by the Roman Catholic Church and the British Council of Churches, who simultaneously decided that the way forward started with "back to square one".

Previous attempts to unite churches in Britain have concentrated on the question, at first, not least, because of what is unity, and what conditions should be attached. But "church unity" is two words, and the new even more fundamental starting point is "what is the Church?" It seems they had been asking the same question first, and not surprisingly getting nowhere.

In the middle of September a large gathering of British churchmen had met under the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, to take the two 1984

initiatives and put them together into a programme.

It was said to be the most comprehensive church gathering ever held in Britain, with everyone from Black Pentecostals to Russian Orthodox represented. The Roman Catholics sent an archbishop and two bishops, the past and present chairmen of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (who happen both to be English).

Apart from setting up the working party which met two weeks ago, the group agreed to the intriguing idea that each church should prepare a statement of what it thought it was. In due course, it was intended, each will explain and defend its self-understanding to this or some other forum.

Each will therefore have first to formulate it. This will be a far more complex, subtle, difficult, and potentially creative exercise than it might at first look, not least because with collective debate and analysis to be anticipated, half-answers, evasions, and platitudes will not be enough.

And contrary to the "papering over the cracks" approach of earlier church unity schemes, this method requires attention to the doctrines which divide, the distinctiveness each church guards most precious, and measures them all against the test of what the Church is, and what it is for, and what it is not.

For Anglicans and the Church of Scotland, the vague "nation at prayer" half-truth will stand exposed as half-truth; the "art of salvation" exclusivism of the Roman Catholic will have to wrestle with the conflicting fact of common baptism, and the awkward knowledge that the Church of England does exist and save; and the Free Churches will have to admit that they have no idea what a Baptist or Methodist is, except someone who likes a certain kind of hymn.

It is likely to be a bonfire of unexamined and doubtful assumptions; and in the ashes, so the hope seems to be, there will be found nuggets of true gold, common answers to the fundamental questions, or more precisely and productively, common foundations on which to build.

The Council of Trent naively thought it had found them, and history instantly proved it wrong: they were the foundations for centuries of conflict.

But it is impossible to detect a sense in Anglican and Protestant traditions today that the right answers may yet turn out to be not so very far distant from those wrong ones: the idea of "the Church" they are groping for and grappling with sounds distinctly catholic, and one the councilmen of Trent, meeting under the ancient crucifix and the watchful eyes of emperors and kings, would regard as theirs too.

Third-time bagpipe champion

From Angus Nicol

Pidcock

The Grant's Scotch Whisky piping championship, once again held at Blair Castle, east of the Duke of Atholl, provided a splendid end to the season of competitive piping.

Ten of the world's leading pipers were invited to take part in what is a competition as well as a superb concert of piobaireachd and of the lighter music of the pipes: the marches, strathspeys and reels.

The overall winner of the championship and of the Balmoral Trophy, a magnificent, rams horn small, was Iain MacFadyen, who had taken part in every one of the 11 Grant's championships, and yesterday won it for the third time.

He also won the first prize for the piobaireachd, and the Highland Society of London's silver cup, with a tune called "The Old Man of the Shells" (Bodach Dhubha nan Sile).

The tune's irregular rhythm lends weight to the theory that it commemorates a great celebration: the scallop shell, or sile, often having been used as a drinking vessel. But it is also possible that the tune may commemorate a battle at Sligachan in Sloy.

The march, strathspey and reel, the Redfern National Glass Trophy, was taken by last year's winner, Pipe Major Gavin Stoddart, who had also won the silver cup, and second overall, the "The Highland Society of London".

Results were: piobaireachd: 1. Iain MacFadyen, 2. Stoddart, 3. MacFadyen, 4. MacFadyen, 5. MacFadyen, 6. MacFadyen, 7. MacFadyen, 8. MacFadyen, 9. MacFadyen, 10. MacFadyen.

March, strathspey and reel: 1. Stoddart, 2. MacFadyen, 3. MacFadyen, 4. MacFadyen, 5. MacFadyen, 6. MacFadyen, 7. MacFadyen, 8. MacFadyen, 9. MacFadyen, 10. MacFadyen.

Collected from Angus Nicol, a Scottish piping expert, who has won the championship many times.

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OBITUARY

PROF P. V. DANCKWERTS Contributions to chemical engineering

Professor Peter Victor Danckwerts, GC, MBE, FRS, Shell Professor of Chemical Engineering in the University of Cambridge from 1959 to 1977 and Fellow of Pembroke College died on October 25 at the age of 68. The son of Vice-Admiral V. H. Danckwerts, he was educated at Winchester and Balliol College, Oxford.

His war record was distinguished as Sub-Lieutenant in the RNVR, he was awarded the George Cross in 1940 for disarming land mines which had fallen on London. The bold, imaginative approach needed for this work - for example lengths of string were used to extract the fuses from the mines - was characteristic of his subsequent scientific work.

He was wounded during the invasion of Sicily and later joined the staff of Combined Operations Headquarters. In 1943 he was appointed MBE.

After the war he used a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship to study for a degree in chemical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. There he met T. R. C. Fox, who had just been appointed Shell Professor at Cambridge, and was also learning the subject at that time. Fox recruited Danckwerts to become a member of the original chemical engineering team in Cambridge and there, in the early 1950s, Danckwerts established an international reputation with a few remarkable papers.

They formed the starting point for many years' research by workers in a variety of topics: gas absorption, mixing, and residence time distributions. In addition to being notable contributions in themselves, these papers set the tone of post-war chemical engineering research by their fruitful application of mathematics to the basic mechanisms governing the operation of chemical plant. Subsequently Danckwerts became critical of this approach.

In later years he suffered from ill health: in spite of this he retained his sense of humour, travelled widely and was always a brilliant letter writer.

In 1960 he married Lavinia, daughter of Brigadier-General D. A. Maclean.

MR ALFRED DALTON

Mr Alfred Dalton, CBE, who died on October 25th, aged 92, was the first General Manager of the East African Railways and Harbours (EAR & H) which, in 1948, amalgamated the Tanganyika Railways and Harbours and the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, providing integrated rail, road, inland waterways and ocean harbour services stretching from the Sudan and Somalia to Mozambique and (then) Northern Rhodesia.

A man of strong character and uncompromising honesty he was in the line of great achievers in the Colonial Service after the First World War.

Born in Cork on January 20, 1892, Alfred Dalton served in the 1914-1918 war with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, in Gallipoli, where he was commissioned in the field - and in France, transferring in 1917 to the Royal Engineers to command the 10th Light Railway Operating Company.

Demobilised in 1919, he joined the Tanganyika Railways in 1920 from where he eventually transferred to the Kenya and Uganda Railways in 1935, becoming Superintendent of the Line to 1938 and Deputy General Manager in 1942.

In the same year he was made a CBE in recognition of his work as Superintendent of the Line, more particularly for the efficient movement of troops and supplies in the first years of the war against Italy.

It was in May, 1948, that Dalton was appointed the first General Manager of the newly amalgamated EAR & H. By this time East Africa was launching into a period of phenomenal sustained development: the ill-fated ground-scheme had been initiated; newly discovered minerals were being mined, and agriculture, commerce and light industry were growing apace.

The challenge of King the EAR & H and its General Manager was to transport the goods and passengers, to build the railways, to build the roads, to build the ports and to build the harbours, to build the bridges, to build the docks, to build the wharves, to build the piers, to build the jetties, to build the quays, to build the basins, to build the locks, to build the dams, to build the canals, to build the aqueducts, to build the sewers, to build the drains, to build the roads, to build the bridges, to build the docks, to build the wharves, to build the piers, to build the jetties, to build the quays, to build the basins, to build the locks, to build the dams, to build the canals, to build the aqueducts, to build the sewers, to build the drains, to build the roads, to build the bridges, to build the docks, to build the wharves, to build the piers, to build the jetties, to build the quays, to build the basins, to build the locks, to build the dams, to build the canals, to build the 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By not lifting a finger to save energy, you're giving foreign competition a helping hand.



How often do your tenders for overseas contracts get beaten by foreign companies?

Worse, how often do foreign companies clinch a contract right here on your own doorstep?

You could be forgiven for thinking they have some sort of secret weapon.

Well, likely as not, they have. It's called energy management.

Applied properly, it can effectively control your energy costs. And contribute handsomely to profits.

Despite our poor showing between 1973-1982 illustrated above, thousands of British companies are proving it every day.

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Someone directly responsible for all your company's energy use.

He can implement programmes to save you energy (and therefore, of course, money). Then help you monitor and control your performance.

With a grant from us, he could go on to engage a qualified consultant who'll devise energy-saving investments tailored to your precise needs.

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pounds a year. Ask your secretary to fill in the coupon.

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information on how I can make my company more energy efficient.

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Job Title

Company

Address

Postcode

Energy Efficiency Office. 

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From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stand. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
1	BUILDING AND ROADS	
2	Galvaco	
3	Nottingham Brick	
4	Burns & Mee	
5	Higgs & Hill	
6	Newcastle	
7	RMC	
8	Rubert	
9	Auton	
10	Redland	
11	BANKS DISCOUNT HP	
12	Gerrard Nat	
13	Hamble	
14	Ans New Z	
15	Bank of Ireland	
16	Schwartz	
17	Not Just Bt	
18	Scotch M	
19	Bank of Scotland	
20	Bardens	
21	King & Shaxson	
22	DRAPERY AND STORES	
23	Currys	
24	Millers Leisure	
25	Simpson (S) A	
26	Wood White	
27	MFI	
28	Customs A	
29	Colet (S)	
30	Jones (Ernest)	
31	Owen Owen	
32	Excavator Clothing	
33	MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT	
34	AE	
35	Harrold	
36	Rory (H)	
37	Quick (H)	
38	Glennfield Lawrence	
39	Davis (Godfrey)	
40	Auto Products	
41	Dunlop	
42	Group Lotus	
43	Harrison (TC)	

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 on Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

SHORTS						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

LONGS						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

BREWERIES						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

BANKS DISCOUNT HP						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

ELECTRICALS						
Stock and share prices						
Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

BUILDING AND ROADS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCE AND LAND						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

FOODS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

CINEMAS AND TV						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

DRAPERY AND STORES						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

HOTELS AND CATERERS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

A-D						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

E-K						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

L-R						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

S-Z						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

INSURANCE						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

LEISURE						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

MINING						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

OIL						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

OVERSEAS TRADERS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

PROPERTY						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

SHIPPING						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

SHOES AND LEATHER						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

TEXTILES						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

TOBACCO						
Stock and share prices						
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Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

THE TIMES						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

DAILY DIVIDEND						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

CLAIMS REQUIRED FOR						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

CLAIMANTS SHOULD RING						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

THE TIMES						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

DAILY DIVIDEND						
Stock and share prices						
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close

THE TIMES

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+60 points

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

LBS echoes Lawson outlook on growth

The London Business School's new forecast, published today, is perhaps the closest approximation we have to a Treasury forecast with the waris left in. It provides a useful news photograph, so to speak, to compare with the society portrait due to be published by the Chancellor in a few weeks' time.

The original reason for this closeness - the assumption of the LBS's chief forecaster on to the heights of the government economic service in 1980 - has faded almost into ancient history. Since then, the LBS has often produced forecasts differing markedly for the Treasury's. But today the LBS is optimistic in many of the same ways that the Treasury is optimistic. Thus the black spots in the LBS forecast provide a convenient checklist of worries to apply to the Chancellor's forthcoming version.

The LBS believes, as Mr Nigel Lawson has already claimed, that Britain's recorded growth rate in 1985 will be roughly as strong as in 1983 - over 3 per cent. Disentangling the effects of the miners' strike (which for forecasting simplicity is assumed by the LBS to end on December 31) this means a slower underlying growth rate in 1985 than in either 1983 or 1984. On the other hand, it does not imply either slump or even a "growth recession," next year - output continues to rise faster than its (rather pathetic) trend rate.

Again like the Chancellor, the LBS expects this growth to be sustained by a little bit of everything. Investment continues to rise, though by less than in 1984. Industry rebuilds stocks a little. The mood of pessimism generated by the strike has undoubtedly contributed to the unexpected industrial destocking this year, which means it has probably done more to depress output than the Government statisticians have so far publicly allowed.

Exports, the LBS forecasts, will be stronger in 1985, helped by the fall in the pound and gathering economic strength in Europe. Hence the forecast's most encouraging - perhaps - too encouraging? - feature: Britain's output actually rises faster than domestic demand. But domestic demand is still the main driving force; and consumption is still the motor of expansion.

In the LBS's view, it is not just private but also public consumption that rises. The LBS assumes that the annual culling by the Treasury and "Star Chamber" does not prevent a continuous real increase in public expenditure. However, since it also assumes the Chancellor sticks to his financial strategy, the consequence of this is not a bigger public-sector deficit, but fewer tax cuts than the Chancellor plans.

This probably underestimates the Chancellor's tax-cutting zest. Just why is he so keen? Back to the LBS forecast. If taxes are cut by more than the LBS supposes, the net effect would be to increase still further the rise in consumer spending. Arguably, however, the rise in consumer spending is too strong anyway, coming as it does from the continued rapid real increases in the earnings of those still at work.

Not the LBS forecast is not, as these things go, particularly apocalyptic about wages - or about their impact on inflation. It is actually projecting a slight slowdown in the rise in manufacturing earnings. It is also, and probably rightly, interpreting official statistics to maintain that productivity is still growing pretty fast.

Thus the inflation figures in the LBS forecast look pretty rosy. Between now and 1988, prices rise by 5 per cent a year or even slightly less.

Back, however, to those wages figures. Even in the LBS's view, manufacturing earnings rise nearly 8 per cent next year. For those who remain in work, the increases are validated by strong pro-

ductivity gains; but the counterpart is a continuing fall in manufacturing employment. In the economy as a whole, the tiny increase in employment opportunities is not enough to prevent a further rise in unemployment.

A familiar story - but one which is not well illustrated by the official Treasury forecast. This is always a bit coy about earnings, for fear of influencing the pay round. It is more coy still about unemployment. Only "assumptions", for national insurance purposes, are published - which have conventionally (and inaccurately) been that unemployment was always just about to level off.

But Mr Lawson has had plenty to say in retrospect about wages and unemployment. He recently suggested that the rise in real wages during 1982-84 had cost Britain about half a million jobs a year. Even if his figures (the outcome of simulations with the Treasury model) were correct, it would be no use crying over spilt milk. The question is: why did it happen? And what can the Chancellor do to prevent it happening again?

In each of the three years 1982-84, earnings have risen by roughly 3 percentage points more than prices. Why? First, parts of British industry have taken the step we have noted on too faster productivity exaltation; profits have gone up, and the workforce too has reaped its reward. But second, in slower-moving sectors, perhaps some employers simply did not dare jeopardize industrial peace by offering less. And third, this judgment may have been distorted by the fact that both sides of the negotiating table probably misjudged the pay rise needed to keep pace with the cost of living.

In response to the first change, the Chancellor should applaud the productivity gains and consider whether his overall policies are geared up to a faster trend rate of growth in the economy. Meanwhile, all ministers should ask themselves whether enough has been done to improve the workings of the labour market. But the third possibility raises some immediate questions for Mr Lawson.

At least a third of the real wage gains of the past three years were unexpected. That is, inflation fell faster than the Treasury forecast; a fault for which it can hardly be blamed, when independent forecasts were higher still. If, however, inflation were now to stabilize at just below 5 per cent, there would be much less reason for an unplanned rise in real earnings.

But Mr Lawson, of course, wants to see no rise at all. He has recently been at some pains to explain that his preoccupation with wages does not mean that he wants to see living standards cut. He has a vision of a world in which earnings simply rise no faster than prices. In this world, employment rises (because while labour productivity goes up, real wages stand still) but the real living standards of those in work continue to rise (because the Chancellor cuts taxes).

This is a much more individualistic version of the "social contract" than that offered by Labour in the mid-1970s, which was for an increase in social spending in return for wage restraint. But even though Mr Lawson's predecessor introduced the "tax and price index" to try to rub home to wage negotiators the benefits of income tax cuts, retail prices remain their prime concern. It is not obvious, to put it mildly, that the Chancellor can now buy greater wage restraint with a general cut in income taxes. He should therefore consider whether a more useful "fiscal adjustment" would not be in those taxes which bear directly on employment in a wholesale recasting of the national insurance system.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

THE GILT-EDGED MARKET

Interest rates optimism justified

Robert Thomas

Sharp falls in the gilt-edged market and in sterling two weeks ago were in some ways similar to the events of July. They were triggered by the possible escalation of the coal dispute and an unexpected reduction in oil prices announced by Norway, Britain and Nigeria. The falls were also underpinned by the virtual absence of official support for sterling at a time when the Bundesbank was supporting the D-mark.

The effect was that any talk of a base rate cut, so prevalent prior to the publication of the September money supply figures on October 9, was replaced by a discussion of whether the pressure on sterling could be ridden out without a repeat of July's interest rate increases. Criticisms of the Bank of England's response in July, however, made any repeat much less likely, and the final withdrawal by the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shiftworkers of its strike threat has contributed to a revival of sterling and a rise in the gilt-edged market. A truly significant recovery may have to await the settlement of the miners' strike, at which time the rebound will be particularly strong if the settlement is not seen as a sell out to the National

Union of Mineworkers. The weakness in oil prices is both more complicated and of potentially longer-term significance. Because of the depreciation of sterling, the fall in the dollar price of oil since late 1980 has not been sufficient to prevent a rise in oil prices quoted in sterling. They now stand at the peak of more than £22 per barrel.

There has been much comment on the possible effect on government finances of the decline in the sterling/dollar rate. If sterling remains at around \$1.20 for the rest of 1984, its average for the year as a whole will be \$1.33, some 9 per cent below the Chancellor's Budget assumption of \$1.46. In consequence, oil revenues in 1984/5 would be more than £800m above the Budget forecast. In contrast, the reduction of \$1.35 in the price of North Sea Brent crude will reduce oil revenues in the remainder of 1984/5 by less than £100m, and by only £300m in a full year.

part of the fall in sterling from the level assumed in the Budget has been due to the miners' strike, the consequent buoyancy of oil revenues has been a partial offset. The corollary is that the overall impact of the strike on the PSBR is much less than that implied by the narrowly-defined costs.

The Chancellor confirmed, in his Mansion House speech, that the domestic monetary and fiscal position is under control. He was clearly, and in our view correctly, trying to reassure the market that an interest rate increase was unnecessary. His statement also suggested that the authorities believed the pressure on sterling to be only temporary.

The partial recovery of sterling last week and the speed with which talk of a base rate cut reappeared, indicates that the authorities' decision to hold the line on interest rates was justified. The Chancellor said he expected both sterling M3 and M0 to be within their target ranges by the end of the financial year. There is nothing in the current figures to suggest

that such a view is misplaced. Indeed, the preliminary indications for October are that sterling M3 grew relatively slowly, bringing its growth rate down again into its target range. A PSBR figure for September of £653m, well below most market expectations, gives a high probability of hitting a PSBR figure of below £80m for the year as a whole. Our expectation is that there will be virtually no net government borrowing in the second half of the year.

Inflation is under control at 4.7 per cent with only a small increase to just over 5 per cent anticipated in the first half of 1985. Both short-term rates and bond yields are high in real terms. The main objective of the authorities with little acceleration of inflation in prospect, the main objective of the authorities, will be to reduce rates as soon as possible.

This is consistent with the Chancellor's rejection of significant inflation via higher government spending as a way to cut unemployment to be decline in interest rates, even if part of the fall has to await either the eventual end of the miners' dispute or a clear decline in the dollar.

The author is economist and partner at W Greenwell and Co.

Opec plans big cuts in oil output to defend prices

From David Young, Geneva

Opec ministers in Geneva for an emergency meeting starting today plan to defend their present oil price structure by collectively accepting a cut in output.

Saudi Arabia will bear the brunt of the cut, which is likely to be nearly two million barrels a day off the present total output of 17.5 million barrels a day. The Saudi oil minister, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, has already said that Opec could have a surprise for the oil consumers after this week's meeting.

The Algerian oil minister, Mr Belkacem Nabl, said yesterday that Saudi Arabia would reduce its output by between 500,000 and a million barrels a day.

The Saudis are estimated by the oil industry to have been producing recently at about 4.2 million barrels a day, up from 3.2-3.4 million at one

point last when they and some other Opec members were temporarily able to shore up sagging open-market oil prices with deep cuts in output.

But in response to questions ahead of the meeting, Mr Nabl said he did not think the 1.5 million barrels a day cut was enough, and he would be pressing for more.

Such cuts, when worsening weather in Northern Europe and the US is expected to stimulate sluggish demand, would have an immediate effect on depressed spot-market prices, sending them up to and possibly beyond the existing Opec market price of \$29.

A firming of world oil demand and prices would allow Nigeria to meet Opec's request that it restore its prices to the official level and almost certainly send Britain's and Norway's North Sea prices back above the Opec price.



Shaikh Yamani: surprise in store for consumers

However, the Nigerian Oil Minister, Mr Tam David-West, said yesterday that Nigeria would not reduce its oil output from its present 1.4 million barrels a day. Its recent price cut of \$2 a

barrel would be reviewed in the changing market conditions, but not reversed unless conditions justified the move.

He said: "Asking Nigeria to cut production by seven million barrels is suicide. That isn't negotiable."

On pricing, Mr David-West noted that Nigeria had made its decision to reduce prices after similar decisions by Britain and Norway. When the situation was reversed, Nigeria would think again.

The price for Opec output cuts will be to allow differential price structure between the light crudes, which have been in consistently high demand, and the heavier crudes.

The differential issue is divisive, and has been cited by Britain, Norway and Nigeria for their reduction in prices of sweet light crudes about two weeks ago.

Business confidence slumps

By Alison Eadie

Company directors' optimism about Britain's economic prospects has fallen sharply in the last six months, according to the October *Business Opinion Survey* from the Institute of Directors.

Only 24 per cent of directors are more confident about economic prospects than six months earlier, compared with 28 per cent in August, 49 per cent in June, 60 per cent in April and a record 65 per cent in February.

The trend of those who are less optimistic has risen from a low of 8 per cent in February to a high of 42 per cent this month.

The decline in confidence has occurred even though 82 per cent of companies surveyed said their businesses had not faced significant difficulties because of the miners' strike.

Sir John Hoskyns, director general of the IoD, said: "This significant fall in business confidence indicates the fragility of British economic recovery. It seems likely that a combination of factors, including continuing trade union militancy demonstrated in the coal strike, and concern about high public spending and tax levels and their impact on interest rates and sterling, are to blame."

Asked about their company's own prospects, 54 per cent said they were more optimistic than six months ago, compared with 57 per cent in August and 66 per cent in June.

Volume increases also appear to be halting. Both the three and six month volume trends showed the lowest level of directors reporting increased volume since the survey was launched last October. The three-month view gave 61 per cent reporting higher volumes against a record 72 per cent last December. The six-month view showed 64 per cent against a record 72 per cent in June.

Formula for pit closures

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Decisions on pit closures should be based on the net economic cost involved, and conducted on an individual, rather than a national basis, Dr Bill Robinson argues in an economic forecast published today by the London Business School.

In his paper, "The Economic Background to the Coal Dispute", Dr Robinson suggests that the Government should close pits only if the combined costs of redundancy and social security payments and lost taxes

exceeded the value of subsidies for individual mines.

If that formula had been followed in the past, national disputes such as the present one could have been avoided, Dr Robinson says.

Privatizing the National Coal Board would probably mean closing about 60 pits. Laurie Millbank's UK economist, Mr Richard Stutely, says in a background paper prepared for Channel 4's *A Week in Politics*.

Japan eases share dealing rules

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Three British companies are expected to submit formal applications for securities licences in Tokyo, after last week's discussions in Japan between British and Japanese financial officials.

Wico, the Hongkong-based subsidiary of Exco International, has now been invited by the Japanese ministry of finance to enter an application for full branch status. Kleinwort Benson is expected to receive the green light soon and another merchant bank, S G Warburg is also likely to be invited to apply soon.

All three already have representative offices in Japan. But they are allowed to do very little except carry out research. Moving to branch status will give them much greater freedom to carry out securities business and important concessions on the fixed commission rates charged in the Japanese market.

Japan's reluctance to grant branch status to British companies was one of the key topics of the recent Anglo-Japanese discussions.

Statham to fight ruling

Lawyers advising Statham Duff Sloop were preparing over the weekend to go to the High Court to challenge an earlier ruling that it cannot act for Grovbell Group in its £5.6m bid for Atlanta Investment Trust.

A temporary injunction, which expires on Thursday, was obtained by Atlanta last week. It argues that as Statham had been its brokers since 1983, the firm had detailed financial knowledge which might prove useful to a bidder. Statham has denied that it is acting as broker for Atlanta.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Change on week

FT-SE 100 Index: 1130.5 up 19.2
FT Index: 873.20 up 19.7
FT Gilts: 90.68 up 0.7
FT All Share: 534.21 up 9.38
Bargains: 19.34
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 101.84 up 0.69
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: 1204.95 down 20.98
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 11,155.02 up 309.85
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1,056.84 up 25.04

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling Index 75.1 up 1.1
\$1.2215 up 300pts
DM 3.7125 up 0.0525
FFr 11.4200 up 0.1925
Yen 299.75 up 5.50
Dollar Index 131.2 down 1.6
DM 3.0375 down 0.838

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Anglo American Corp of South Africa, Avana, Cass Group, El Oro Mining and Exploration, Plantation and General Investments, Viking Resources Trust, C and W Walker Holdings, Final: Allied London Properties, Anvil Petroleum, Floyd Oil Participations, Manganese Bronze Holdings.

TOMORROW - Interims: Auklen Hume International, Clement Clarke, Electrocromponents, Globe Investment Trust, Newmarket (third quarter), Reed International, United Ceramic Dist. Final: Amber Day Holdings, British Car Auctions, Fairview Estates, J Hapworth and Son, Reardon Smith Line.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Arbutnot Yen Bond Fund (second interim), Ellis and Goldstein, Foster Bros. Clothing, Henderson Group, Wire and Plastic Products, Final: Aberdeen Trust, Yarrow.

THURSDAY - Interims: H. Boot and Son, Coates Bros, Fleming Far Eastern Inv. Trust, Gramplan Television, Millers Leisure Shops, Final: Berry Trust, Britat Group, Martonair International, Wemyss Inv. Trust.

FRIDAY - Interims: Sir Joseph Causton and Sons, Estates Agency Holdings, Flight Refuelling, Final: British Empire Securities and General Trust.

WHEN SHIPBUILDING CAME TO AN END, WE TOOK A CLOSE LOOK AT OUR FUTURE.



And we saw a great future in biotechnology. We knew that recent breakthroughs in genetics had meant that microscopic organisms could now be created and 'programmed' to carry out productive tasks. However, we also knew that to use this technology in continuous mass production would present a major challenge to engineering design. At John Brown we accepted the challenge. The result? To date, only one really large continuous protein process has reached commercial production. Its name: the ICI 'Purteen' plant. It needed meticulous attention to engineering detail to ensure that the fermenter was kept sterile. We gave it. And it all proved worthwhile. The 'Purteen' plant now has the world's biggest single airlift fermenter with a capacity between 50,000 and 70,000 tons of protein a year. But we are not only involved in the big projects. We also offer a comprehensive service to help realise those ideas conceived in the laboratory. Our clients range from Government departments to major chemical concerns and new bioscience companies. And it is our ability to meet our clients' individual needs, that has resulted in some 10 contracts from companies based in North America. While an East European company has sought our expertise to help develop its invention for intensifying aerobic fermentation. Yet if our experience in the biotechnology field is unrivalled, so too is our experience in power generation, oil platform design and polymer plants. We are diverse in our expertise. And international in our scope of operations. And we adhere to one principle: to maintain the highest standards of engineering excellence.

JOHN BROWN
Proud of our past. Committed to our future.

Richard Workman and Les Pugh

Bingo: We are close to maximising the potential in existing Bingo clubs, so growth must come from expansion. Two new clubs have been acquired this year and others are still being sought. Also we now have our own Gaming Machine Operating Company. This is already proving to be a successful and profitable addition to the Group.



The good life on the Grand Canal

Milton Keynes

Progression has been rapid, from a small village to a new city with new people, new technology and only one set of traffic lights.

"Why move to the middle of nowhere when you can move to the middle of London?" The message streams from billboards and television ads, put there with public money by the quango set up to regenerate London's docklands.

The "middle of nowhere" — so the London Docklands Development Corporation hints — is 40 miles up the M1 motorway, a city planned to help relieve congestion in the middle of London.

But the Milton Keynes Development Corporation (answerable, incidentally, to the same government department as the London Corporation writing the knocking copy) is a victim of fashion, what general manager Frank Henshaw calls our national tendency to lurch to extremes.

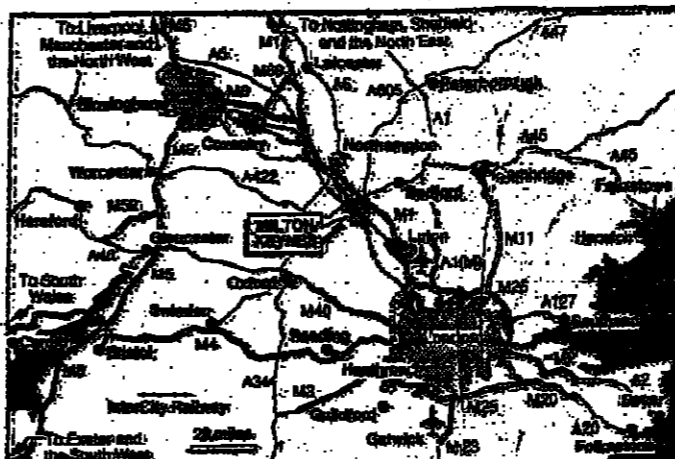
In the mid-1970s Whitehall discovered the plight of the inner cities and derelict docklands and took another look at the demographic projections. Almost overnight, political enthusiasm for the New Towns dried up. It stayed that way when the government changed in 1979. For some of Mrs Thatcher's ministers the first issue was how quickly the New Town corporations could be wound up and their land and buildings sold.

Cooler counsel prevails today: but it is no exaggeration to say that Milton Keynes, the latest and grandest of the English New Towns, is a policy orphan. In an era when planning is a bog-word and an £800-million debt (admittedly calculated on the Treasury's warped accounting scheme) is bad news, Milton Keynes could have been in 1984 just another rather embarrassing bit of the welfare state that a Conservative government did not quite know what to do with.

Instead, it looks increasingly as though Milton Keynes has been saved — in the government's eyes — by the market. Since 1978 (Frank Henshaw's date) private sector firms have been totting with their feet. Annual private investment in the city is now around £120 million a year; there could be a further £1.7 billion over the next decade. The investors are firms national and international. Milton Keynes is fulfilling the requirements of the country in attracting foreign firms, say the civil servants in their briefs.

They have not — yet, at any rate — been able to say that of docklands.

The nine-mile arc of Buckinghamshire, from Stony Stratford in the north to Bletchley in the



south, is Britain's ultimate planned environment. Milton Keynes' broad boulevards, its kilometre-square blocks seem to speak of a blueprint, an intelligently-organized whole.

Of course there was a plan — a "sixties" masterpiece — put together by, among others, the Richard Joseph Davis Partnership. But it was a plan, its modern admirers say, blessed by the spaces it left by its flexibility. There was talk of mono-rails (a particular favour

Milton Keynes is a success despite policy flip-flops and costly delays while the siting of a fourth London airport was discussed

ite of the influential Buckinghamshire county planner, Fred Pooley) but what happened was that space was left on a plan, space usable now as extra roadway or greenward.

Milton Keynes has gone through several major alterations of purpose. At first it was part of the London overspill scheme; at one early point it was conceived as a means of relieving demographic pressure on the southern part of

Buckinghamshire; at another it was to be a way of regenerating the run-down depressed former railway towns of Bletchley and Wolverton; then it was to be a regional growth point.

Milton Keynes is a success despite these policy flip-flops, despite the costly delays in the early years while the possible siting of a fourth London airport was discussed. It pulled itself together despite early architectural failures in house design and despite slack management. Whitehall confusion and despite an almost impossible financial regime imposed by Treasury rules requiring every penny of spending to be borrowed or fixed interest rates on a 60-year loan from the National Loans Fund.

Success, rather, is due to the people, firms and institutions (notably the Open University) which made early decisions to locate in Milton Keynes, and to the New Town's dynamic duo of the 1970s, its Chairman Lord Campbell of Eskandari and general manager Frank Roche. Campbell it was who helped build Milton Keynes' identity as a "high-tech" city, attractive to the latest generation of manufacturing firms. Roche was a builder of houses, an interpreter of the master plans, assumptions

about density and transport networks.

In its construction Milton Keynes has taken up and embellished a stock of ideas about community and physical structure derived from the 20 urban experiments that constitute the English New Town phenomenon. From Crawley in the south to Redditch in the north, the towns have been remarkably different in their economics and social success — so much so that one writer has called the New Towns "a programme without a policy", meaning all they have in common is the administrative form of a corporation with homing powers appointed by central government.

Milton Keynes, designated a New Town in January 1967, was part of the "third generation" of an age with "Warwick, Northampton and Peterborough" but these were expansions of existing large towns. Milton Keynes, given its scale, was uniquely a new city.

Clearly influenced by the densities and mobility of Los Angeles, the planners laid a grid pattern of roads, through the designated 22,000 acres to give it, immediately, a distinct ultra-modern feel.

Yes, there were assumptions built in, on landscaping, against high rise. But the point of the MK plan is that it has retained the ability to regenerate — we've got space for that to happen. This is Frank Henshaw. The prime American influence, he says, was the way American cities seem able to continue growing from within. MK has never innovated for the sake of novelty, nor deliberately to attract the constant procession of visitors, many of them from Britain's commercial competitors, who come to inspect. "What we've had is ideas capable of practical resolution."

This year Milton Keynes has — within the dimensions of the

original plan — reached half-way stage. Mr Henshaw gets on from his desk to gesture through the picture windows which run across two sides of his office. Some 55 per cent of Milton Keynes' developable land is still available; there are great gaps still to be filled.

Current Whitehall theory says that the Milton Keynes Development Corporation should be wound-up by 1989; its assets transferred to the Commission for the New Towns or sold. But on the grounds that a case is made for the corporation — a uniqueness for economic and social development — to continue, after all, the corporation model was sufficiently impressive for Conservative ministers to transfer it straight to London and Liverpool docklands.

Still part of that old vision of harmonizing town and country and collective purpose

"The Government's problems with Milton Keynes are only partly financial; the rest public borrowing required by the town is now quite small. Sir Henry Chilver, the corporation chairman, speaks of a private/public investment ratio of ten to one. The issues are ideological. The New Towns programme was a grand exercise in collectivism. Milton Keynes rests on a plan, the commanding heights of the state of land and resources for public purposes."

Yet in the 1980s there is not much sense of socialism in action. According to Sir Henry, the expertise of Milton Keynes officials lies along the public-private frontier in their ability to create conditions for investment, for home ownership, for the "mixed" provision of community facilities.

Milton Keynes is distant in time, and in spirit from the first "garden cities" imagined by Ebenezer Howard and realized eventually in Leichworth and Welwyn and the first generation of post-war New Towns. Yet Milton Keynes, named (people wrongly think of economists) after an idyllic Buckinghamshire village, is still part of that old vision of harmonizing town and country, collective purpose and individual aspiration.

Perhaps it will one day realize Howard's hopes for a "small scale society: more individualistic than now — if by individualism is meant a society in which there is fuller and free opportunity for its members to do and to produce what they will... while it may also become more socialist — if by socialism is meant a condition of life in which the well-being of the community is safeguarded."

David Walker

Why Sir Henry is aiming high, high, high

Sir Henry Chilver, Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield Institute of Technology, can only be called a national resource.

For some years he has occupied a prominent place on that list — by no means extensive — of institutional leaders who can be called upon by governments to do difficult jobs which both politicians and permanent civil servants would rather not, or simply cannot undertake.

Chilver, ever a willing work horse, serves on various higher education committees including NAB (the national advisory body for local authority colleges); he is on various National Economic Development Office committees; he has been sent to Ulster to help sort

out educational tangles. He served, briefly but tellingly, as chairman of the Post Office as it was being split into separate bodies for telecommunications and the mail.

The chairmanship of the Milton Keynes Development Corporation, to which he was appointed in 1983, was another difficult job. Ministers were by no means sure what they wanted done with this part of their inheritance from an earlier era of high public sector investment; they certainly wanted to cut the New Town's spending.

The town's first chairman, a bullish businessman, Lord Campbell of Eskandari, appointed by Harold Wilson, could not be

replaced with a similar type. Yet the government knew its obligations to the town's residents, and to the firms that had invested there, demanded an effort to round out the plan: Milton Keynes could not be abandoned half-completed.

Sir Henry, Professor of Civil Engineering at University College, London in the sixties and for a time director of the Centre for Environmental Studies, had been in at the town's inception: he had been a colleague of Richard Llewellyn-Davies, author, with his architectural partners, of the original plan.

In the years since, as he worked to build Cranfield into a distinguished centre for applied technological education and

research, Sir Henry had watched his neighbours on the corporation — Cranfield is on the road from Milton Keynes to Bedford, just outside the New Town boundaries.

But Sir Henry's suitability, from the government's point of view, was clinched by his philosophy of balancing public investment with private, his emphasis on fostering wealth-creating activity, his ability to make contacts between the public and private world and gain the confidence of business people in longer-term projects.

A year and a half into his chairmanship, Sir Henry — a conduit between the politicians in the Department of the Environment and the Cabinet

and the staff of the corporation — notes two priorities: to maximize private investment in the town over the next decade, and to push the present fifty-fifty divide between owner occupation and renting of homes further towards home ownership. But he emphasizes private investment does not just mean commercial buildings. I firmly believe new firms will bring in other dimensions. The private sector has a role in culture and recreational provision as well."

Sir Henry, it has to be said, has no overweening vision of new Jerusalem being built in North Bucks. As an engineer, he is attracted by Milton Keynes' aesthetics; but his job, primarily, is "how to help bring the

plan to a practical conclusion." He prizes not just the town's innovations in building materials and construction techniques, but its potential for future regeneration. "British cities are blighted by their inability to regenerate from within."

He plays down "central solutions", preferring the resolution of the practical problems of development by "people on the ground." "There will always be a place for rented housing. But at the moment the emphasis is unreservedly on house sales. Sir Henry envisages that within two years the ratio of rented to owner-occupied property will be 40 to 60, a reversal of the 60 to 40 ratio that applied until the end of the 1970s."



Sir Henry Chilver: striving

Sir Henry is the sort of public servant politicians and civil servants like: he is not one to rock the boat of middle-class public statements. "There will, he insists, be no 'lobbying' to secure an extension of life for

(Continued on p.20)

Anglia puts you in the picture...

More people are tuned to Anglia in Milton Keynes than any other ITV station — nearly 110,000 people, 82% of the population.

(Source: BARB Boundary & Overlap Survey).

Anglia Television the ITV station serving Milton Keynes

Hi! Tech.

Hi! Burroughs, Hi! Pericom, Hi! Solcon.

And Hi! to Monsanto, Sperry, Apollo, Marconi and the other 120 high-tech companies who've moved to Milton Keynes.

If you're in high tech today, why aren't you in Milton Keynes?

For further information, contact: Commercial Director, Milton Keynes Development Corporation, Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes. MK9 3HS. Tel. (0908) 664666.

Sir Henry Chilver, aiming high

the corporation. (Ministers are at present committed to winding up the development corporation in Milton Keynes by 1989, selling its assets and transferring the residual responsibilities to the Commission for the New Towns.)

Instead, he says, there should be wide discussion. "We must look at what would happen if the corporation were turned off in 1989 - or even in 2000. We should be aiming for some sort of completion by the mid-1990s. There is viable activity until the mid- to late-1990s, although I see the corporation becoming a facilitating rather than a development agency."

The only note of criticism of the government enters Sir Henry's judgement of the New Town's finances. Under the rules Milton Keynes, like the other New Towns, has had to finance construction and land acquisition by borrowing for 60 years at fixed interest rates - in other words the bulk of its debt is denominated in the high interest rates prevailing during the later 1970s, and so the deficits keep mounting. It is, he says, "a massive artificiality which the government has done nothing about."

A practical contribution

Chairmen of New Towns, part-timers who are remunerated for their efforts, are on four-year contracts: it is most unlikely that Sir Henry Chilver will not be asked to take another turn after 1987. His contribution will undoubtedly be practical. Milton Keynes may well, thanks to him, take a leading position in the preparation of electronic engineers, much-needed information technology specialists and its position on the "new industrial frontier" secured by his efforts. The word "high" litters his statement of ambition for the town: high tech, high quality of life, jobs and physical facilities. He is too much a rationalist to worry over nebulous ideas such as "community". The corporation's job is to bring people together, he says, but creating a community is what they alone, not a public agency can do.

David Walker



There is something for everyone and a variety of styles when you shop in this new centre of Milton Keynes

Welsh like to shop here

& S food store, is now at the stage of detailed negotiations.

People feel that their city has arrived. It is a far cry from the beginning of the 70s when the city centre site was open fields, with a farmer's corrugated shed the only building in sight. True to its polycentric ideal, Milton Keynes does have other shopping centres. That at Bletchley, already a substantial London overspill town before MK was thought of, hold its own for most kinds of shopping; and both Wolverton and Stony Stratford (with its attractive Colferidge Close precinct) serve more than local needs; while each neighbourhood has at least a local shop, and in some cases two neighbourhoods share rather a bigger local centre.

On the recreation/entertainment side, a policy of joint recreation/education provision has been built into the town, with school facilities - especially at Stantonbury and Woughton Campuses - designed for public as well as school use. The education authority, Buckinghamshire County Council, has built 50 new schools and major extensions to 12 existing schools, providing 22,000 additional school places since the new town's designation.

Sport facilities are also diverse and generous. They range from Willen Lake in the south east of the town, with its dinghy and sail-boating; Bletchley Leisure Centre, and Milton Keynes Bowl, a grass amphitheatre with room for 50,000 people; down to some 630 children's playgrounds and "kickabouts" in individual neighbourhoods. In the field of informal recreation, the Grand Union Canal with its associated linear park, the Redway system of cycleways and footpaths, and the town part with its belvedere may be noted.

Those 5,000 red balloons

A vast array of clubs and the arts and other fields, flourishes in the city, and there are pageants and festivals like the annual Great Lindford Festival, and the release by school children of 5,000 red balloons - conceived for publicity purposes, but such a success the development corporation had decided to make it an annual event.

Until now, despite the useful Middleton Hall covered space in the shopping centre, the city

has lacked a large central focus for indoor entertainments. This gap is now being filled on a site south of the shopping centre with a £10m joint development by Bass Leisure and American Multi-Screen Cinemas Inc. The building, designed by Building Design Partnership and interior designers Tibbatts, will take the form of a spectacular glass zigzag and will house no fewer than 10 cinemas, as well as discos and other entertainment. This is an area which has hitherto appeared to support only one cinema, in Bletchley.

Another sorely-felt want was met last May when Milton Keynes District General Hospital opened. This stands at the top of a pattern of health care which includes group practices operating neighbourhood centres - the most recently established has five doctors and supporting staff each serving a population of 12,000-15,000, from premises owned by the practices. There are opportunities for chiropodists, dentists and other medical specialists to establish local practices. For old people, the new city provides markedly better than normal support, with more than 30 sheltered housing schemes and a variety of back-up services.

Tony Aldous

The joke that the big firms come to enjoy

"Wouldn't it be nice," crows the commercials on Channel 4, "if all cities were like Milton Keynes." There will now be a short pause for holly laughter and missed raspberries; kindly direct them at the man responsible, Mr Bob Hill.

"We are not trying to make people like us," replies Mr Hill. "We are only trying to persuade them to come to see us." After 12 years as the man charged with selling Milton Keynes, the commercial director of the city's development corporation remains quite hopelessly enthusiastic.

"We are still a joke in some quarters, but rarely among those who have been here. They may not like it, but they cannot fail to be impressed by the pace of development." The commercials, backed by a poster campaign until it was abandoned this year because of budget cuts, try to convey a vague and misty idyll: one tries to show the rurality of our newest city, with a businessman going fishing on his bike, while the other tries to convey a community spirit, with a great many children and several hundred red balloons.

"We are trying to sell an image," says Hill. "Our early advertising tried to convey facts and it was a bit of a failure." When the development corporation stopped trying to do the job themselves and gave the job to a professional advertising agency, Cogent Elliott, things got better.

Milton Keynes's difficulty is that what it has to sell is the somewhat vague concept of a pleasant environment in which to work and live.

The promotion, despite the apparent drawbacks, has undoubtedly worked. The 1981 census showed Milton Keynes to be the fastest growing urban area of the UK.

The great success of Milton Keynes marketers has been to attract foreign companies. An up-to-date tally shows more than 50 American, 30 Scandinavian, and nine Japanese businesses with a base in the new city. According to Hill, industry's decision-makers now have to pay much more attention than they once did to the total environment in which they are going to expand or relocate: it has to be a place where their staff will be happy to move to, or where there is already a stable and employable workforce.

Critics say that it is an unnecessary waste of public money to have different British development areas competing for the same overseas customers.

"You could save money by having one overall UK development corporation, touting for overseas firms," says Hill, "but it would be quite hopeless. It would be vague and bureaucratic; every decision would have to be referred back."

"I can sell Milton Keynes because I know exactly what is on offer here; I can be specific. My record from having made first contact with a company to having them committed to coming here is just under two weeks."

The missions to Japan

The facts of hard selling behind the pretty television ads can chiefly be seen in the development corporation's twice-yearly mission to Japan, when a team goes for specific targets among Japanese companies thinking of expanding into Europe. Back-up at home has included the opening of a Japanese restaurant, on the development corporation's initiative, and the impending opening of a Japanese school in the city.

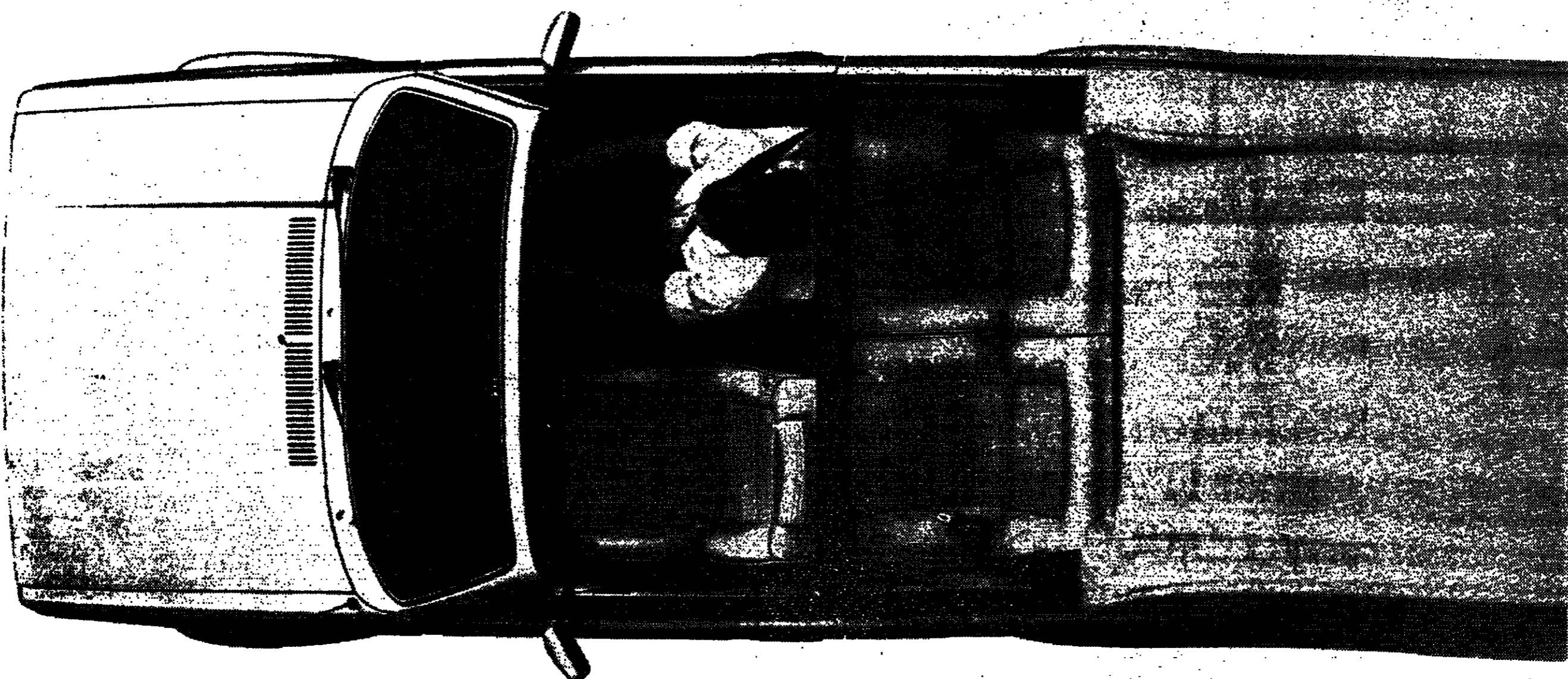
"The Japanese," says Hill, "like to be liked. They appreciate that sort of detail."

Selling Milton Keynes has probably become easier over the years. Persuading a company to move in when so many are already there is a great deal easier than waving a hand across a green field site and trying to extol benefits which exist only in the imagination. The unsolicited testimonial is even more powerful than the colour spreads in the Sunday supplement and the TV commercials, both of which Milton Keynes pioneered among development areas.

Hill's personal view is that the selling job will have reached its peak in the early 1990s: the framework of the city will by then be firmly established, the population will be at or near 200,000 and the place, for better or worse, will then sell itself without the need for clever campaigns.

Ajan Hamilton

One day you'll settle down with a roof over your head.



(We did, in Milton Keynes.)



The first car

MILTON KEYNES

molterey
—The Spirit of Good Taste—



Pericom

Pericom PLC, Manufacturers of Micro Computers Graphic Terminals and VDU's
Pericom House, Rockingham Drive, Linford Wood, Milton Keynes, MK14 6LH.
Telephone (0908) 670000 Telex 826442

What was once a 37 square mile greenfield site is now the fastest growing business community in Britain, with 2,000 companies and others arriving at the rate of three a week

Why this city lures the Japanese

Milton Keynes is probably the fastest growing business community in Britain. What was, in 1967, a 37-square mile largely green field site with three small towns is rapidly becoming the main regional commercial and industrial centre between London and Birmingham.

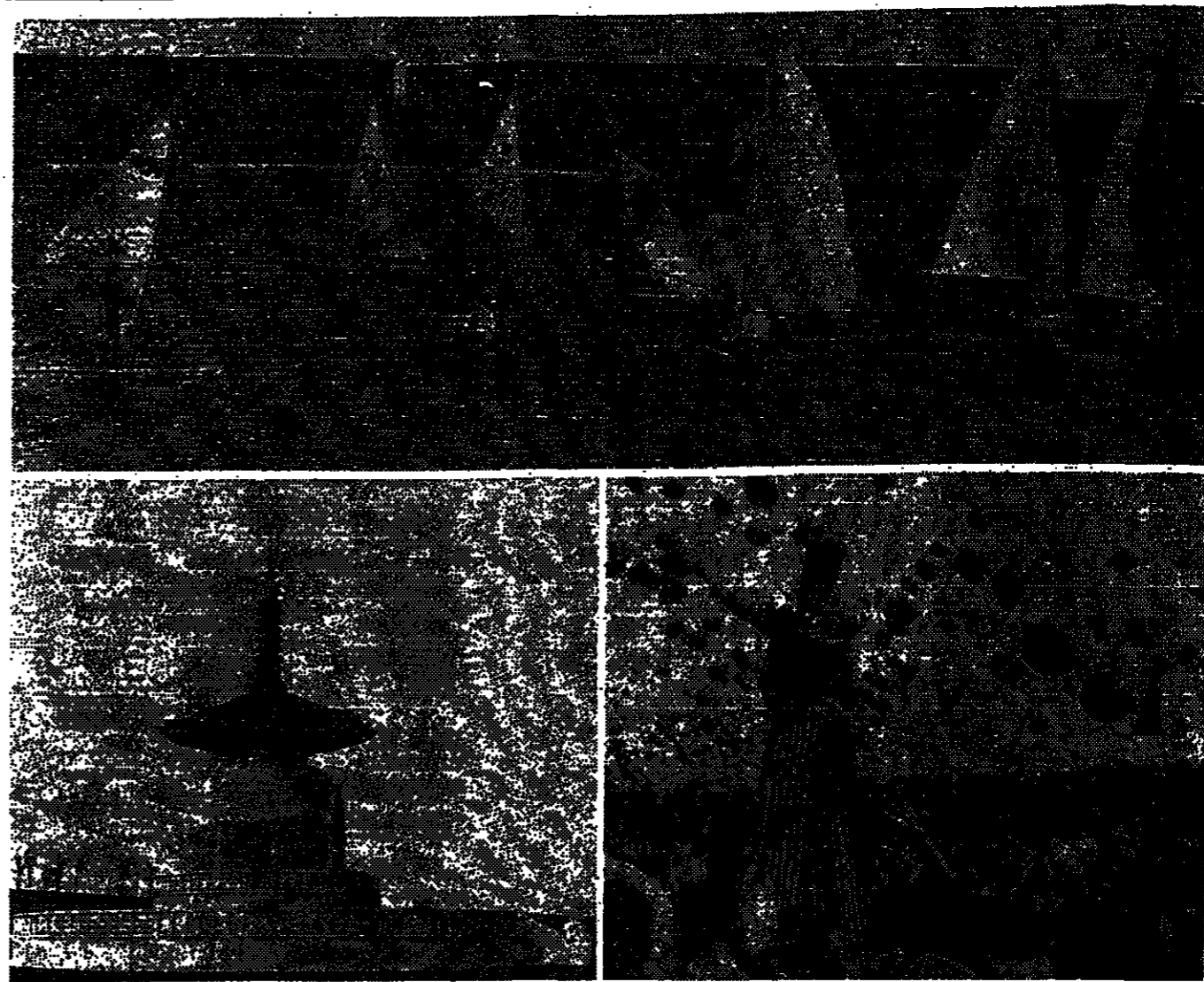
There are more than 2,000 commercial and industrial companies based in the new city, and others arrive at the rate of three a week. They include household names such as Abbey National, Coca Cola, Volkswagen and Mercedes Benz, and more than 120 high technology companies including Burroughs, Sperry, GEC Marconi, Hoechst and Monsanto.

Milton Keynes claims to have more Japanese companies than any city area in the UK outside London. The lure for Japanese businesses has been enhanced by the announced intention of a Japanese educational organisation to establish a private school for Japanese children in the city.

The main attraction of Milton Keynes is its location in terms of general accessibility by road, rail and air.

The Milton Keynes Development Corporation has been able to attract companies without the carrot of regional grants in aid. The only government monies available are the standard nationwide schemes for innovation and energy conservation and, in the case of international companies, the discretionary support for major industrial ventures.

Instead, the Corporation has concentrated on complementing the new city's location and life-style advantages with the advisory and other services modern businesses need to get established in the area and, at the same time, creating a dynamic business climate in



Top: sailing on Willen lake, and above, the Japanese Peace Pagoda, and those famous 5,000 balloons.

which companies can prosper and expand.

This includes providing specialist planning advice and offering a range of freehold and leasehold office and factory accommodation, either standard or custom designed to cover virtually any requirement.

A feature of the leased accommodation is that companies can trade their leases in for either larger or smaller premises as their needs change. Thus a small company can expand with the minimum of expense, a factor which has enabled a number of firms to grow significantly.

The computer terminal manufacturer Pericom Data Systems has increased its turnover more than forty-fold, from £250,000 to over £10 million in eight years and now occupies its own freehold site which also has room for expansion.

The corporation also offers help to enable businesses to make the maximum use of information technology. The city's Information Technology Exchange provides businesses in the area with a centre where they can get advice on the latest

Top employer

The Open University is Milton Keynes' biggest employer, with almost two thousand staff at the university's campus at Walton Hall and at smaller offices and a warehouse in Bletchley. Specialist staff at the campus are currently involved with processing the 70,000 or so examination scripts.

This year's examinations are likely to result in about six thousand more BA (Open) graduates, bringing the total since 1972 to around 69,000. Of the 110,000 people who study with the OU each year, more than 40,000 are studying outside the OU's degree programme, for example with the Open Business School.

in IT and how to make the best use of them.

The ITEX, as it is called, offers consultancy and training services, and has a demonstration area where visitors can try out the latest microcomputers and personal business computers for themselves.

ITEX is unusual in that it is also the corporation's computer department. The corporation makes extensive use of the computers from mainframes to personal computers in all departments, and the centre's 14 staff therefore have considerable practical experience.

In addition to consultancy and training, the exchange stages "events" on various aspects of IT. It recently held an exhibition and a series of seminars on computer-aided design and computer-aided engineering. Similar events on office automation and computer networks are planned.

Milton Keynes also offers companies the latest in telecommunications facilities. For example, British Telecom's latest data transmission services including Kilostream, Megastream and the PSS Packet-Switched Services are all available to provide instant communications worldwide if necessary.

The corporation has long regarded telecommunications as an essential part of modern business and therefore an integral part of its planning

activities. As a result, companies in Milton Keynes will be among the first to offer services by both British Telecom and the new national network operator Mercury.

The city is scheduled to be part of the pilot ISDN (Integrated Services Data Network) and of Mercury's new data services network, both of which are scheduled to be introduced next year.

The corporation has also taken telecommunication services into account, when planning new business premises. Cabling for data and telephone services are built-in to all new buildings, the corporation having already constructed some 15 million square feet of office space.

This philosophy is embodied in the Central Business Exchange (CBX), a huge combined business and leisure complex, the first phase of which is now being built. Comprising two office blocks, an hotel, restaurants, leisure garden, sports centre and night club, it is designed to accommodate present and future information technology facilities.

Frank Brown

Vorsprung durch Technik.

(As they say in Milton Keynes.)



We've progressed in, and with, Milton Keynes since 1978.

Job P
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Job prospects look good for the young

The creation of employment is fundamental to the creation of a socially and economically balanced new city such as Milton Keynes, and it is now a major employment centre.

Since 1967, employment in the area has risen dramatically from about 18,000 to over 32,000. The number of people unemployed is just under 8,600, close to the national average.

The workforce is employed in more than 2,400 establishments, ranging from self-employed through to large organisations. Over 64 per cent are in service industries, but manufacturing industry - which employs 28 per cent - is a major growth area. According to the City's Job Centre, youth unemployment is low - 281 at the last count - and it is difficult to fill vacancies in the various youth training schemes. There is also a shortage of orders for the building trade.

Some 60 per cent of the labour force are in the 20 to 40 age group, compared with only 40 per cent for the UK as a whole. This predominance of younger people reflects the age profile of the city as a whole.

Three quarters of the workforce are in skilled or professional and managerial categories. A recent survey of engineering skills, carried out by the Engineering Industry Training Board, showed that industry in Milton Keynes has above average levels of modern technology-based skills, rather than traditional crafts and trades.

There is also a high proportion of graduates, with 5,000 local residents having a degree or some professional or vocation qualification.

Training schemes

The most recent figures available show that about 9,300 Milton Keynes people commute to jobs outside the city, mainly in London, and 13,000 commute to jobs in Milton Keynes.

Having established a broadly-based business community in the new city, the Milton Keynes Development Corporation has taken a number of steps to tackle unemployment and ensure that the city's education and training resources are in tune with local requirements.

For example, it publishes detailed booklets on employing people and training opportunities which are issued free to all employers so that they are aware of the many facilities available.

It is involved with the local education authority in the Technical/Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI), a pilot project in a national scheme to increase the amount of technical and commerce-orientated education in the curriculum of pupils in the 14 to 16 age group.

To provide a focal point for future training needs and improve training for the unemployed, the corporation has set up an all-party group called the Milton Keynes Manpower Forum. Its members include representatives from the borough council, Bucks County Council, the Manpower Services Commission, the Milton Keynes Chamber of Commerce, and the Milton Keynes Trades Union Council.

To help unemployed people

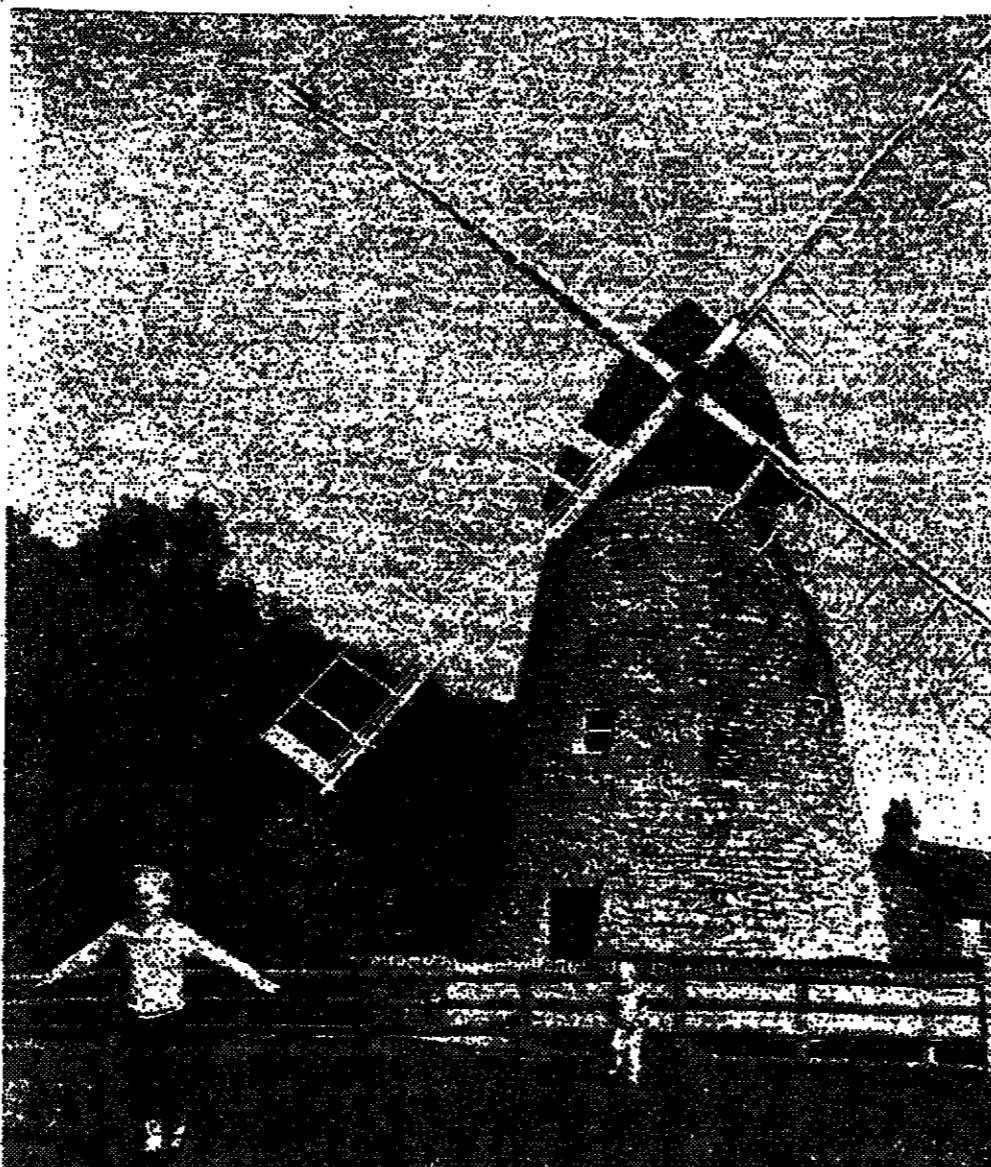
establish their own business, and provide assistance to existing small businesses, the corporation has set up an organisation called the Milton Keynes Business Venture. Help covers every aspect of setting up and running a business, including the preparation of financial proposals and provision of information on the various government-aid schemes for small businesses. In addition, the venture has workshops for suitable applicants at low rents and offers secretarial help. Office units are also available. Launched last year, it has already had 600 applicants and 150 are already in operation, covering a wide variety of enterprises.

As part of its information technology strategy, the corporation set up an information technology training centre (ITEC). Sponsored by the computer producer Burroughs Machines and other local organisations, it provides unemployed school leavers with a year's basic practical training in electronics, computing and electronic office skills.

Thus it offers them a bridge between school and skilled employment, and hopes to provide local firms with a pool of junior staff trained in information technology.

Another source of help for the unemployed is the Milton Keynes Skillcentre. Although part of a national network, it offers a comprehensive training service matched to local needs for both unemployed people and for employers' existing staffs.

For example, it has introduced courses on fork lift truck driving to meet the recently-introduced code of practice formulated to reduce the number of fork lift truck accidents. It also provides courses for electrical and electronic technicians to meet the requirements of the latest developments.



The old windmill... one of the new city's links with its old traditions.

A noticeable feature of the various organisations involved in these initiatives is their willingness to co-operate.

The area's chief education officer, John Ginever, for example, said: "We recognize our responsibility for our children's industrial future and we are fortunate enough to have new schools with which to implement the changes in curriculum."

"Before the TVEI scheme, we had already sent 50 of our teachers on industry appreci-

ation courses and, in cooperation with the chamber of commerce, instituted a highly successful Diploma of Computer Appreciation course for our children - and which is being adopted by local adult education institutions."

Among the many other organisations offering training in Milton Keynes are the corporation's Information Technology Exchange which provides courses in business computing, and the chamber of commerce which is active in

business training of all kinds. Business courses are also offered by the Open University, and the Cranfield Business School.

The new city will always be subject to the economic influences of the country as a whole. "We are not an island," the corporation's general manager Frank Henshaw comments, "but we will do our utmost to fight off unemployment."

Frank Brown

A city of easy riders

Milton Keynes was planned for a car-owning and car-using society and the man or woman at the wheel of a car in the new city is a privileged individual. The "string bag" layout of grid roads which bound its neighbourhoods at one kilometre intervals provide fast, largely trouble-free motoring. Once you leave your neighbourhood roads, it is 50mph-plus through-out the system, and because of the nature of the plan, with its even spread of low density development, there are no bottlenecks.

From the point of view of freight distribution by road, the picture is equally attractive. The grid roads feed on to the M1, which forms the town's eastern border, and on to the new A5, a high-capacity dual carriageway built to near-motorway standards with grade-separated junctions. Milton Keynes is 32 miles from London, 66 miles from Birmingham, and the M25 with all its fast connections is just 30 miles of M1 away.

The new Milton Keynes Central railway station, opened in May 1982, has exceeded all expectations, both of the development corporation and British Rail. It earned a surprising £1.8m in fares revenue in 1982-83; and while some of this was at the expense of the existing stations, Wolverton and Blechley (which it replaced as the Inter City stop), much of it is new business. Traffic continues to grow: figures for the first three months of 1984 were 43 per cent up on the equivalent quarter of 1983. This is why next year's timetable will show 31 Inter City trains stopping there as against the present 18.

The overall service is three or four trains in each direction including limited stop services which reach London in just under an hour, compared with around 40 minutes by Inter City. Milton Keynes Central is a clean-lined, rather superior five-platform station with platform buildings in cream tiles and glass. A generous footbridge plugs this into a concourse which is the ground floor of a glass-walled office building, one of several (existing, under construction or planned)

between railway and town centre. The station, including concourse, cost £6.75m, of which the development corporation stumped up two-thirds. They found BRT must be well pleased with the investment.

Outside the station, your taxi picks up one of the spacious tree-lined boulevards leading towards the town centre or back on to the grid road system. Opposite the railway station is an equally clean-lined but less luxurious bus station. United Counties green one-man buses move briskly - there is nothing to hinder them - but do not exactly overwhelm one by their numbers.

From the road you may catch glimpses of MK's parallel transport network, the Redways. This is a network of cycleways and footpaths, of which 120 kilometres out of a planned 200 kilometres plus has been completed, and so called for their red tarmac. They were planned to run through the centres of grid squares rather than follow roads, but this has disadvantages from the point of view of journey-to-work trips - seven per cent, only marginally more than nationally, cycle to work - and perhaps also concerning security and vandalism.

Redways are widely used for leisure journeys and by children

Recent stretches of Redway have more often run parallel to grid roads. Some users criticise poorly designed features (like blind corners) and poor maintenance. Nonetheless, it is clear that the Redways are widely used for leisure journeys and by school children: 46 per cent of MK households have bikes (national average 27 per cent) and accidents are half the national average for cyclists, a quarter for pedestrians.

One future transport facility is the planned heliport. Having lost a public inquiry for a site near MK's main M1 connection, the development corpo-

ration recently got ministerial approval for a less sensitively placed heliport a mile or so further south. It is now looking for a developer. The heliport should provide for both executive and air-taxi services and, a scheduled helicopter service to and from Heathrow.

Public transport is the city's Achilles heel. MK is too low in density - on average about 11 persons to the acre - and too wide-spread to support good public transport without a very generous level of subsidy.

Dr Ralph Potter, a transport expert until recently with the Open University, blames the inadequacies of Milton Keynes public transport on the layout of the town and the unwillingness of central government and Buckinghamshire County Council to provide adequate subsidies. There is, he says, no technological answer: only a financial and political one. Wayne Purdue, the development corporation's transport planner, says he came to Milton Keynes with much the same pre-conceptions, but has changed his mind. He points out that buses have high running speeds and this and their direct routes are popular with regular users.

Most households have a bus stop within 200-300 metres of their front doors, and the present level of subsidy - £1.1 a year to cover a 30 per cent shortfall from fares - is planned to secure a 30-minute minimum frequency on 11 trunk routes, all running through the town centre.

But users complain they cannot rely on that 30-minute frequency and if a bus drops out the wait is a long one. Moreover, whereas the development corporation's share of the subsidy is reducing, the county council (which once proposed a free monorail) is unwilling to contribute more than a modest share (currently less than 20 per cent), and Milton Keynes Borough has had to pick up a bigger bill. Wayne Purdue would not, even with hindsight, alter MK's layout or densities to improve public transport.

Tony Aldous

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Brown is on course to earn tour exemption

Pensacola, Florida (Reuter) - Ken Brown of Britain, shot a two-under-par 69 to take a one-stroke lead after three rounds of the \$300,000 (£250,000) dollar Pensacola Open golf tournament on Saturday.

Brown, with 16 pars and two birdies over the 7,093-yard Perdido Bay Resort course, saved par on four occasions. But the European Ryder Cup team member has three players, John Hahafey, Bill Kratzert and Joey Sindelar, a PGA tour newcomer, breathing down his neck on nine-under par 204. One stroke behind them are Danny Edwards and Ralph Landrum, the first-round leader.

Brown's performance in this last official event of the 1984 PGA tour puts him in a position to earn a two-year exemption from qualifying for the United States tour. He is currently at 151 on the tour's money list and needs about \$15,600 to break into the top 125 exempt players. A three-way tie for third place, or better, would give him the breakthrough.

Tom Watson, who bypassed this event, captured his fifth Arnold Palmer Award as the year's leading money winner when his two closest challengers, fellow Americans Mark O'Meara and Andy Bean, failed to make the 36-hole cut here. Watson, who has \$476,260 in official earnings this year, last won the award in 1980.

Calvin Peete, who also bypassed the event, secured the Vardon Trophy for the tour's lowest stroke average when O'Meara, his closest pursuer, returned a two-round total of 149 to missed the cut by six strokes.

THIRD ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): Ken Brown (GB) 69, 68, 69, 206; J. Hahafey (US) 70, 69, 70, 209; B. Kratzert (US) 71, 68, 70, 209; J. Sindelar (US) 70, 69, 70, 209; D. Edwards (US) 71, 69, 69, 209; R. Landrum (US) 70, 69, 70, 209; T. Watson (US) 71, 68, 70, 209; A. Bean (US) 71, 69, 70, 210; P. Oosthuizen (SA) 71, 72, 71.

Striking it rich in Brighton as JR's well dries up

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Sylvia Hanika, a left-handed German who combines strength with an extraordinary variety of buzzing spins, won the £26,700 first prize in the singles event of the Brighton Centre yesterday. In a final that had everything except the spice of a dramatic finish, she beat Joanne Russell 6-3, 1-6, 6-2. These experienced players were more consistent than two promising teenagers, Pascale Paradis and Andrea Temesvari, in Saturday's semi-finals. Miss Temesvari, though, gave Miss Russell such a testing match that, yesterday, it was no surprise when Miss Russell's concentration eventually insisted on a break.

Against Miss Temesvari and Miss Hanika in turn, Miss Russell had to maintain a level of performance that tired the mind as much as it tired the body. At the beginning of yesterday's third set she hit a loose patch that cost her 15 points out of 16. Miss Russell recovered from 0-4 to 2-4 but her chance had gone. Miss Hanika responded with two commanding games.

It may be wondered why the final of such a distinguished tournament should be contested by players ranked only nineteenth and thirty-fourth in the world. But in the absence of Martina Navratilova, Chris Lloyd, Tracy Austin and Andrea Jaeger (the last two are temporarily out of the game), there are plenty of players capable of winning the kind of prize money that is easier to write than to believe.

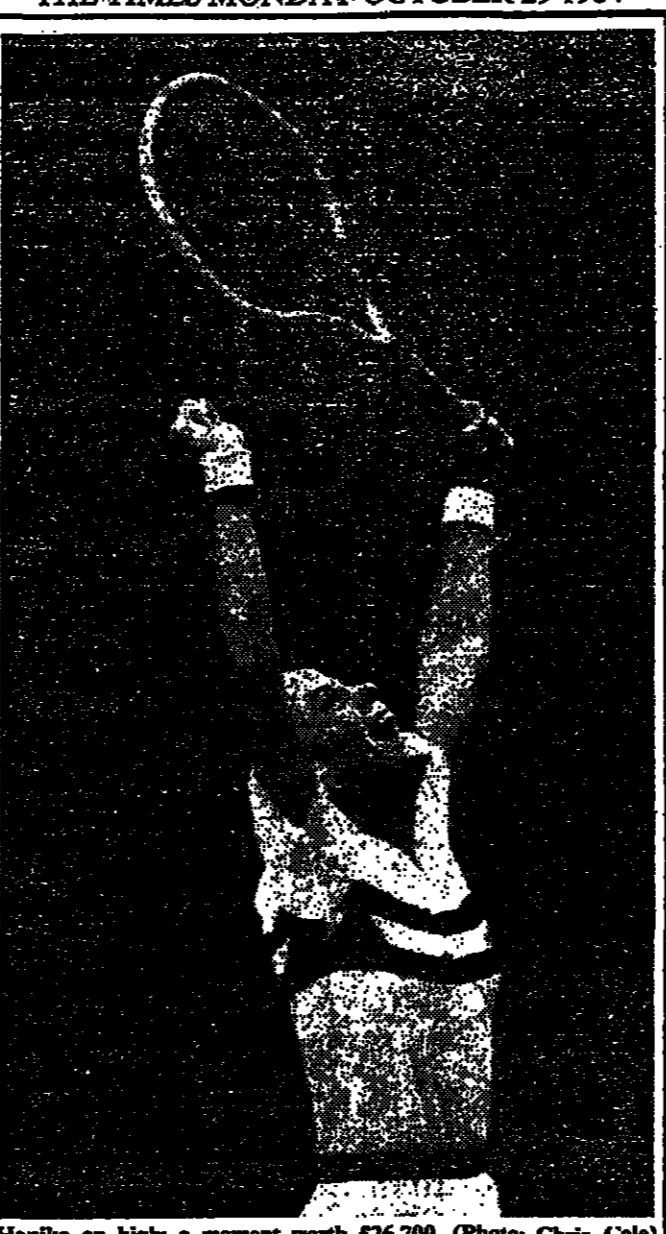
Miss Hanika, for example, has been runner-up for the French title and has four times reached the last eight of the US championship. But this Brighton success was her first in the big event since she beat Miss Navratilova at Madison Square Garden in 1982. Miss Russell, who will be 23 tomorrow, won the Wimbledon doubles with Helen Gourlay in 1977, but, currently, may be playing the smartest, most disciplined tennis of her career.

They gave us one of the better Brighton finals. It was rich in shrewd shot-sequences, the tennis of the chess board, with each player thinking one or two moves ahead. Miss Hanika's game is difficult to read but Miss Russell mostly read it well. Each in turn played a fine set. JR struck out in the second set. Then the well dried up.

The All-American doubles final, for a first prize of £10,800, featured three players chosen for this week's Wightman Cup match against Britain at the Albert Hall. Paula Smith was the odd one out but she and Alycia Molton gave the week an exciting and spectacular climax with a 6-3, 7-5 win over Barbara Potter and Sharon Walsh, the last team (back in 1982) to beat Miss Navratilova and Pam Shriver in a grand slam championship. Brighton's last result, therefore, was encouraging news for Britain.

SEMI-FINALS: Russell (GB) vs Temesvari (HUN) 7-6, 6-2; Hanika (GER) vs Paradis (FRA) 6-3, 6-2. FINAL: Hanika vs Russell, 6-3, 6-2.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: SEMI-FINALS: R. Landrum (US) & D. Edwards (US) vs H. Gourlay (GB) & A. Molton (GB) 6-3, 6-2; J. Sindelar (US) & J. Hahafey (US) vs B. Potter (GB) & S. Walsh (GB) 6-3, 6-2. FINAL: Landrum & Edwards vs Gourlay & Molton, 6-3, 6-2.



Hanika on high: a moment worth £26,700. (Photo: Chris Cole)

● Vienna (Reuter) - Tim Wilkison, of the United States, crushed Pavel Slozil, of Czechoslovakia, 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 yesterday to win the \$122,000 (£101,000) Vienna Grand Prix Tournament.

The eighth-seeded American, 25, who reduced the Czech to a bystander in a one-sided match, was in top form after overcoming a virus earlier in the week and picked up a £16,000 cheque for his efforts.

● The Czech made numerous shots and only in the third set did Slozil show any sign of a comeback as Wilkison began to win.

● Hongkong (Reuter) - Andres Gomez, of Ecuador, tamed the fighting spirit of Tomas Smid, of Czechoslovakia, to win the final of the \$200,000 (£166,000) Hongkong Grand Prix here yesterday.

The world No 5 controlled the match from the start and passed Smid almost at will to win 6-3, 6-2.

Taylor in better frame of mind

By Sydney Friskin

Dennis Taylor had not practised since he won his semi-final on Friday night in the Rothmans Grand Prix tournament at Reading. In the first half of the final against the 1980 world champion, Cliff Thorburn, yesterday, he did not seem to be in need of practice.

Taylor eventually won 10-2 and received snooker's richest prize - £45,000.

Taylor built a lead of 6-2 in a scheduled 19-frame match against an opponent who had achieved a 9-7 victory over Steve Davis the previous evening. Taylor potted 19 frames in the last four frames before the main interval that he went into it with a smiling face, having compiled brilliant clearance break of 112. Before that, he had successively made breaks of 57 (clearance), 40, and 33.

At the first interval, the frame scores were 3-2. Thorburn having once again shown his determination by drawing level. With a break of 39, he built a lead of 32-1 in the fourth frame and resisted a spur by Taylor, who had replied with 32.

Thorburn started the day well, winning the first frame, and in spite of an early break of 53 by Taylor had a chance of winning the second. He made a break of 45 after putting the green last position he was seeking on the brown. His fate was later sealed when he missed the brown completely and hit the blue to concede five points. Taylor, taking all the colours in a row, made sure of the third frame to give ample notice of better things to come.

When Thorburn defiantly Davis on Saturday night, he became the first player to beat the world champion in nine months.

Davis, after falling 3-1 behind Thorburn, won five frames in a row to go 6-3 ahead, an advantage which was soon cancelled by Thorburn, who went on to win the match with a brilliant clearance break of 101.

SEMI-FINAL: C. Thorburn (WAL) vs S. Davis (ENG) 10-2. FINAL: D. Taylor (WAL) vs C. Thorburn (WAL) 10-2. THURSDAY: D. Taylor (WAL) vs C. Thorburn (WAL) 10-2. THURSDAY: D. Taylor (WAL) vs C. Thorburn (WAL) 10-2.

Too hot for some as Italian triumphs

From See Mott, New York

In the hottest New York City marathon ever and the slowest since 1976, a 26-year old Italian student with the looks and dramatic instinct of their football star Paolo Rossi beat the Briton, David Murphy, to the finishing tape.

Several times in the last five miles, Orlando Pizzolato stopped dead clutching his stomach, almost unsentimental the motorcycle policeman following behind as he crumpled over him. Murphy who was 15 seconds adrift with less than two miles to go, was unable to catch the winner and eventually finished 43 seconds behind him.

Pizzolato's winning time was 2hr 14min and 52sec, the slowest New York marathon since Tom Fleming's in 1975 (2:19:27).

The wet, slippery road surfaces and 74 degree heat dictated a tactical race for the marathoners as opposed to a greyhound pursuit and many of the favourites, including the British pair Geoff Smith and Mike Granton, dropped out of the reckoning victims of the unhealthy conditions.

Nick Brown, the 27-year old Oxford graduate from Canterbury, became Britain's only other representative in the top 10 finishers, clocking 2:17:42 - more than six minutes off his previous best.

The race began in misty, stifling conditions as 18,365 competitors, the largest ever field for the event, jostled at the starting line on the Verrazano Bridge linking Staten Island with Brooklyn. Many had been at the start since 5.30am enduring the crack of dawn humidity and pre-race nerves.

Among them was Gary Fanelli, a 34-year old Pennsylvanian, who was spirited along the 26.2 mile course to Central Park, draped in a sheet and with a tape recorder strapped to his back blaring the theme tune to the film "Ghostbusters".

But clearly as the race progressed toward the 20-mile barrier known to long distance runners as the wall, the rejuvenation qualities of the marathon running were open to dispute. One of the favourites, Rod Dixon, last year's champion, who had been paid \$10,000 to enter this year, dropped out.

Grete Waitz, who had admitted that her silver medal performance in Los Angeles was regarded as a failure in her native Norway, led the women's race from start to finish to win for the sixth time, in 2:39:29. Veronique Marot, who lives in York, finished second, beaten one of the favourites, Laura Fogli of Italy.

MEET: 1. Pizzolato (ITA) 2:14:52, 2. D. Murphy (GB) 2:16:38, 3. H. Smith (GB) 2:18:22, 4. P. Granton (GB) 2:18:35, 5. G. Smith (GB) 2:17:05, 6. M. Granton (GB) 2:17:11, 7. J. Brown (GB) 2:17:42, 8. A. Brown (GB) 2:18:18, 9. D. Brown (GB) 2:18:22, 10. B. Brown (GB) 2:18:22.

WOMEN: 1. G. Waitz (NOR) 2:39:29, 2. V. Marot (FRA) 2:40:28, 3. L. Fogli (ITA) 2:41:11, 4. P. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 5. J. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 6. M. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 7. L. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 8. P. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 9. V. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11, 10. B. Marot (FRA) 2:41:11.

Ballesteros slip lets in Wadkins

Kurimoto, Japan (Reuter) - Lanny Wadkins shot a final-round 63 to eclipse his fellow-American Tom Watson, and win the British Open Championship by four strokes here yesterday.

Wadkins scored seven birdies over the 6,798-yard, par-70 Oak Hills course for a 14-under-par 266 total, as Ballesteros, who took a one-stroke lead into the final round, shot his second successive 73 and dropped sixth place, eight strokes behind. It was the American's first win of the year.

"I feel great," Wadkins said after his triumph. "I played very well. I did not miss a shot today."

Ballesteros came to grief over the back nine after collecting two birdies before the turn. The Open champion faltered with an eight on the par-five sixteenth and dropped another shot at the next hole to finish on 274.

Final scores (US unless stated): Wadkins (USA) 63, 69, 70, 266; Watson (USA) 64, 70, 72, 276; Ballesteros (ESP) 65, 70, 73, 278; L. Wadkins (USA) 66, 70, 73, 279; J. Wadkins (USA) 67, 71, 74, 282; T. Wadkins (USA) 68, 72, 75, 285; P. Wadkins (USA) 69, 73, 76, 288; S. Wadkins (USA) 70, 74, 77, 291; R. Wadkins (USA) 71, 75, 78, 294; M. Wadkins (USA) 72, 76, 79, 297; K. Wadkins (USA) 73, 77, 80, 300; N. Wadkins (USA) 74, 78, 81, 303; O. Wadkins (USA) 75, 79, 82, 306; P. Wadkins (USA) 76, 80, 83, 309; Q. Wadkins (USA) 77, 81, 84, 312; R. Wadkins (USA) 78, 82, 85, 315; S. Wadkins (USA) 79, 83, 86, 318; T. Wadkins (USA) 80, 84, 87, 321; U. Wadkins (USA) 81, 85, 88, 324; V. Wadkins (USA) 82, 86, 89, 327; W. Wadkins (USA) 83, 87, 90, 330; X. Wadkins (USA) 84, 88, 91, 333; Y. Wadkins (USA) 85, 89, 92, 336; Z. Wadkins (USA) 86, 90, 93, 339.

Briars increases Zaman's agony

By Colin McQuillan

Qamar Zaman lost his world second ranking last week to the young Australian, Chris Dittmar. Last night he suffered a far more significant deprivation when he lost his world number one position to the Pakistani, who showed his most contemptuous outburst of the World Masters championship 10-8, 9-2, 5-10 in 30 minutes.

The ICI Perspex event at Warrington, Lancashire, was not a happy experience for the 34-year-old Pakistani master stroke-player, who has been accustomed to cruising just behind world champions - first Clive Hunt and recently Jahangir Khan. In three round-robin qualifying matches he lost to the astute tactics of Magdi Sand, of Egypt, the grand determination of Ross Turner, of Australia, and now the calm professionalism of England's John No 1.

"I went on determined to play my own game," Briars said. "I could have relaxed because I had already had Cameron's allotted semi-final place after winning two matches. But I knew if I could win the first game I could turn him over for the first time since Brussels two years ago."

This second win was an important psychological achievement for Briars, who is under serious domestic challenge from a clutch of players hoped to find competitive sharpness by the new national Premier League.

Briars matched Zaman stroke for stroke in the early rallies and assumed gradual command driving

British trio on top in Versailles

British athletics took the first three places in the annual Paris-Versailles road race yesterday. Karl Harrison was first, recording 50 min 51 sec for the gruelling 17-km course, with Peter Tootell second and Julian Gough third. Altogether 25,000 runners took part.

BOWLES: John Bell, runner-up last year, was beaten by a 100m sprinter, Superbowl, to David Bryant, who was surprisingly beaten in the first round of CIS UK indoor singles championship at Preston yesterday. He went down by two sets to one to Stephen Bates, of London.

BADMINTON: The women's singles final was won by the favourite, Ann Aiping, of China, who beat compatriot Wu Dix, 9-11, 11-2, 11-0.

CYCLING: Darryl Webster, of Leicester, retained his hill climb title by 10 seconds at Stanhope Village, Co Durham, yesterday.

CRICKET: Six young athletes have been chosen for the 1985 England tour of Australia. They are: Simon Goddard, aged 24, and Alan Fellows, 21 (both from London); Tom Skonecny, 18, of Plymouth; Alastair Burt, 19, of York; Martin Marriott, 19, of Stoke and David Dismore, 20, of Coventry.

MOTOR RACING: The fifth Himalayan rally was flagged off in Delhi yesterday with Jayant Shah of Kenya, leading the 60-car field in a Nissan 200 RS. British drivers include Philip Young and Hywel Thomas.

Sterling display of recovery powers

By Keith Mackillo

Two exciting finals in the country cups, with attendances totalling 51,000, gave Rugby League followers a great weekend. The winners were Hull and St Helens, but in both games there were remarkable recoveries, a winning by Hull and a losing one by Wigan.

A crowd of 25,243 at Boothferry Park saw Hull Kingston Rovers romp into a 12-0 lead in the first 10 minutes of Saturday's game. The try scorers were Robinson, Fairbrairn and Hall but Fairbrairn could not land any of the goals. Hull looked down and out by their recovered superbly, with Sterling, the Australian scrum half, playing the game of his life to inspire his team.

Crook got a try and Schofield two goals before halftime and the second half Hull ran away with it. Tries came from Kemble, Schofield, Norton and Evans. Schofield completing four goals and a dropped goal.

At Central Park there was an attendance of 26,000 to see St Helens beat Wigan 26-18 after coasting to a 24-2 lead at half-time. Again the inspiration came from Australia, with the big centre Meninga, bursting through for two tries and

Increase in Olympic drug cases

From Pat Butcher

It did not take too much sniffing to detect the explosive material lurking under the rose garden of European athletics. It seems that at least two more athletes, and possibly five, failed dope tests at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. That is apart from the doping scandal in the final originally placed second in the 10,000 metres, and Anna Verouli, the European javelin champion from Greece, who have already been disqualified.

It may seem difficult to believe that four days of athletics that, joviality, back-slapping and swapping of contracts could exclude any mention of the one which could undermine the whole show. The question of drug abuse only arose as an addendum to the final press briefing, when most of the delegates and the one who was asked to underline the whole show. The question of drug abuse only arose as an addendum to the final press briefing, when most of the delegates and the one who was asked to underline the whole show.

If the road races are instituted as proposed, on May 5, 12 and 19, that will give the IAC a package of five events, including the "Coke" meeting on August 2, and their cross-country race, which is on December 15. Derek Johnson, the Melbourne Olympic silver medal winner, and his wife, who is not simply their credibility, had not their Coca-Cola meeting been included on next year's track grand prix circuit.

The road races will be modelled on the successful 5,000 metres event round the centres of Newcastle in April, which was watched by the BBC. Indeed, the IAC seems aimed at getting a good deal out of TV, when their contract, separate to the one already agreed by the athletics' governing bodies, is signed in the forthcoming weeks.

Their five meetings would represent about 20 per cent of the annual television coverage, but they were loath to admit that they could expect a comparable percentage of the £2m a year that the governing bodies are getting from ITV.

FOR THE RECORD

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (US unless stated): Wadkins (USA) 63, 69, 70, 266; Watson (USA) 64, 70, 72, 276; Ballesteros (ESP) 65, 70, 73, 278; L. Wadkins (USA) 66, 70, 73, 279; J. Wadkins (USA) 67, 71, 74, 282; T. Wadkins (USA) 68, 72, 75, 285; P. Wadkins (USA) 69, 73, 76, 288; S. Wadkins (USA) 70, 74, 77, 291; R. Wadkins (USA) 71, 75, 78, 294; M. Wadkins (USA) 72, 76, 79, 297; K. Wadkins (USA) 73, 77, 80, 300; N. Wadkins (USA) 74, 78, 81, 303; O. Wadkins (USA) 75, 79, 82, 306; P. Wadkins (USA) 76, 80, 83, 309; Q. Wadkins (USA) 77, 81, 84, 312; R. Wadkins (USA) 78, 82, 85, 315; S. Wadkins (USA) 79, 83, 86, 318; T. Wadkins (USA) 80, 84, 87, 321; U. Wadkins (USA) 81, 85, 88, 324; V. Wadkins (USA) 82, 86, 89, 327; W. Wadkins (USA) 83, 87, 90, 330; X. Wadkins (USA) 84, 88, 91, 333; Y. Wadkins (USA) 85, 89, 92, 336; Z. Wadkins (USA) 86, 90, 93, 339.

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THURSDAY: D. Taylor (WAL) vs C. Thorburn (WAL) 10-2. THURSDAY: D. Taylor (WAL) vs C. Thorburn (WAL) 10-2.

THE TENNIS

SYDNEY: Australian Open: Final (US unless stated): Wadkins (USA) 63, 69, 70, 266; Watson (USA) 64, 70, 72, 276; Ballesteros (ESP) 65, 70, 73, 278; L. Wadkins (USA) 66, 70, 73, 279; J. Wadkins (USA) 67, 71, 74, 282; T. Wadkins (USA) 68, 72, 75, 285; P. Wadkins (USA) 69, 73, 76, 288; S. Wadkins (USA) 70, 74, 77, 291; R. Wadkins (USA) 71, 75, 78, 294; M. Wadkins (USA) 72, 76, 79, 297; K. Wadkins (USA) 73, 77, 80, 300; N. Wadkins (USA) 74, 78, 81, 303; O. Wadkins (USA) 75, 79, 82, 306; P. Wadkins (USA) 76, 80, 83, 309; Q. Wadkins (USA) 77, 81, 84, 312; R. Wadkins (USA) 78, 82, 85, 315; S. Wadkins (USA) 79, 83, 86, 318; T. Wadkins (USA) 80, 84, 87, 321; U. Wadkins (USA) 81, 85, 88, 324; V. Wadkins (USA) 82, 86, 89, 327; W. Wadkins (USA) 83, 87, 90, 330; X. Wadkins (USA) 84, 88, 91, 333; Y. Wadkins (USA) 85, 89, 92, 336; Z. Wadkins (USA) 86, 90, 93, 339.

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THE RUGBY LEAGUE

WARRINGTON: Wadkins (USA) 63, 69, 70, 266; Watson (USA) 64, 70, 72, 276; Ballesteros (ESP) 65, 70, 73, 278; L. Wadkins (USA) 66, 70, 73, 279; J. Wadkins (USA) 67, 71, 74, 282; T. Wadkins (USA) 68, 72, 75, 285; P. Wadkins (USA) 69, 73, 76, 288; S. Wadkins (USA) 70, 74, 77, 291; R. Wadkins (USA) 71, 75, 78, 294; M. Wadkins (USA) 72, 76, 79, 297; K. Wadkins (USA) 73, 77, 80, 300; N. Wadkins (USA) 74, 78, 81, 303; O. Wadkins (USA) 75, 79, 82, 306; P. Wadkins (USA) 76, 80, 83, 309; Q. Wadkins (USA) 77, 81, 84, 312; R. Wadkins (USA) 78, 82, 85, 315; S. Wadkins (USA) 79, 83, 86, 318; T. Wadkins (USA) 80, 84, 87, 321; U. Wadkins (USA) 81, 85, 88, 324; V. Wadkins (USA) 82, 86, 89, 327; W. Wadkins (USA) 83, 87, 90, 330; X. Wadkins (USA) 84, 88, 91, 333; Y. Wadkins (USA) 85, 89, 92, 336; Z. Wadkins (USA) 86, 90, 93, 339.

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GOAL RATIONING LEAVES ISSUE OPEN

Goals were rationed in the second round of the county championship (Sydney Friskin writes). Middlesex drew 0-0 against Kent at Canterbury, and Buckinghamshire were held at Slough by Berkshire.

These results leave the issue wide open for places in the south semi-finals from that group. All four teams have yet to score a goal. As expected, did not play for Middlesex.

In the other group, Surrey and Sussex drew 1-1 at Chertsey, Jersey County scoring for Sussex in the fifth minute and Collier for Surrey 15 minutes after the interval. Both teams have three points but Hampshire left themselves with the chance of qualifying for the semi-finals by beating Oxfordshire 3-2 at Farnham.

This was an exciting match, in which all five goals were scored in the second half. Faulkner, from a penalty stroke, and Seabrook put Hampshire two goals ahead; goals by Biggs and East enabled Oxfordshire to draw level, but Paul Jones scored the winner for Hampshire.

By beating Lincolnshire 4-2 at St Albans, Hertfordshire made sure of a place in the east semi-finals.

Hullfield scored three goals from penalty strokes for Hertfordshire and Swelling increased their score. Both goals for Lincolnshire were obtained by Pudding.

In the other group, Norfolk beat Bedfordshire 5-0, which means that they and Essex have already qualified for the semi-finals in this division.

Yorkshire, the county champions, started their northern fixtures by beating Cambridgeshire 5-1. Byas (2), Pearson, Cutler and Bechenor scored for Yorkshire; Gray for Cambridgeshire.

YORKSHIRE ARE HELD

Yorkshire and Leicestershire's county women's encounter ended in a 1-1 draw but was not without incident (Joyce Whitehead writes). Yorkshire held the upper hand in the first half despite Leicestershire taking the lead through Mary Grimley.

In Canterbury Sue Lane, of Kent, and Sue Healy, of Cheshire, scored 2-1 each, a surprise result for Kent. Cheshire enjoyed plenty of possession but could not score a second time.

After being on top in the first half, Sussex lost 1-4 to Somerset.

WAS IT A BURNING DESIRE FOR TAMNAVULIN THAT DROVE THE WOLF OF BADENOCH WILD?

We may never know what possessed the outlawed son of Robert I, Scotland's first Stuart king, to go on the rampage - an excess that led him to sack part of Elgin town together with the old cathedral and which, amongst others, earned him the epithet 'Wolf of Badenoch'.

Rumour has it that he was frustrated in his search for a pale, pure malt whisky, with which to soothe his delicate palate - a taste which Tamnavulin, with its light, delicate colour, and rich, smooth flavour, would have been well equipped to satisfy.

Unfortunately for the Wolf of Badenoch, Tamnavulin was then in rather short supply - unfortunately for the rest of Speyside.

TAMNAVULIN

The naturally light malt whisky

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• **Prevalence** = the proportion of a population that has a disease at a particular point in time

